

GUN TALK

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE
Saskatchewan Gun Collectors Assoc.



SASKATCHEWAN GUN COLLECTOR'S ASSOCIATION

Founded 1961
Incorporated 1962

A patriotic, educational and non-profit organization dedicated to the collecting of firearms and research into their history. Membership open to any reputable person.

-----OFFICERS-----

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| President | Mr. L. Dobrescu |
| Vice-President | Mr. R. King |
| Secretary | Mr. F. Osipoff |
| Treasurer | Mr. R. Hill |
| Director (2 years) | Mr. Y. Pohjavuori |
| Director (2 years) | Mr. F. Osipoff |
| Director (1 year) | Mr. L. Tallentire |
| Director (1 year) | Mr. J. Livingston |
| Honourary Solicitor | Mr. C. Burrows, Q.C. |
| Research Director | Mr. R. Phillips |

-----"GUN TALK"-----

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Editor | Mr. B. Henderson |
| Publisher | Mr. R. Cantin |

Address all correspondence to:-

Saskatchewan Gun Collector's Association,
P.O. Box 1334,
REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN.

"GUN TALK" is published quarterly by the S.G.C.A. for the benefit of its members. Dues are \$4.00 per annum, payable each January to the Treasurer.

Permission is required to reproduce in full or in part any of the material contained in this journal. Write Editor.

The views expressed in the articles appearing in this journal are not necessarily those of the Editorial Staff or of the Saskatchewan Gun Collector's Association.

E D I T O R I A L

A hearty welcome to the new members of the Association from the Gun Club cronies. You chaps are an important addition to the Association. Also a New Year greeting to the members who have once again rejoined the ranks of the boys. Welcome aboard!

This is the fifth year of publication for the Quarterly, and also Saskatchewan's Centennial, so I hope everyone will put an extra effort into contributing suggestions, ideas and material for publishing.

In the last issue of "Gun Talk", the suggestion was made that Saskatchewan be divided into nine areas with an area director in each being responsible for articles to issue to the Quarterly. Well, I was appointed as Chief Push in picking out the necessary man for the job in each area. With the able help of some local partners in crime, I will locate the men involved and advise them of their duties.

If you are not picked, please give your full co-operation to the men that are - your turn could be coming up the following year. I hope to correspond with the directors involved in the near future.

Enclosed with this issue of the Quarterly is a green slip - read it over and consider the possibilities this type of effort has. To really make it succeed, it will require a lot of members from Gun Clubs across Canada. You can't get a cheaper mode of advertising to the gun collectors across Canada and the U.S. By the way, the originator of the idea is Les. SMITH of Saskatoon, one of our members from away back.

In closing, I'll add this little item:

Getting out this journal is no picnic,
If we print jokes people say we are silly;
If we don't they say we are serious.
If we clip things from other magazines
We are too lazy to write them ourselves;
If we don't we boost our own stuff.
If we stick close to the job all day
We ought to be hunting up articles;
If we do get out and try to hustle
We ought to be on our job in the office.
If we don't print contributions
We don't appreciate true genius;
And if we do print them the journal is filled
with tripe.
If we make a change in the other fellow's copy,
We are too critical;
If we don't, we are asleep,
Now, like as not, someone will say
We pinched this from some other magazine.
Well, you are right -
WE DID!!!

(Social Credit) London

THE MEMBERS WRITE

Enclosed you will find a money order for the sum of four dollars (\$4.00) for "GUN TALK". You Saskatchewan boys can put out the best news magazine for the collector. You have news letters (meaning that your association members are behind you 100%), you have humor to keep our interest up and above all a darn good Editor. Keep up the good work. I hope to see you all at the Saskatoon Gun Show and if it is as good as the Regina Show (and I know it will be) you will have a real show.

I want to remind you of our Gun Show (Lethbridge Branch of the A.A.C.C.A) which will be held March 27 & 28. The auction will be held Saturday evening. The show will be open to the public from 6:00 to 9:00 Saturday and from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. Sunday. Further information will be given in a future news letter.

As you all know this will be our first show and we want to give everyone a very good impression for future shows. We will do our Best so SEE YOU IN LETHBRIDGE.

Thanks again for "GUN TALK" in 1964 and I'll be looking for it in '65.

Yours truly,

Harvey L. Dimm,
Box 25, Granum, Alta.
(Director Lethbridge Branch
A.A.C.C.A.)

- - - - -

Can anyone furnish me with the current address of Mr. Abe REIMER who supplied information on the N.W.M.P. Model 1876 Winchester carbines in an article "Ask the Newsletter" of "Gun Talk"?

Vernon CHARNETSKI,
Box 13,
Prelate, Sask.

REPLY

Last Known address - 1962:

536 Regent Avenue West,
Transcona, Manitoba.

- - - - -

Gun Talk is great, keep up the good work. Please send my next copy to this address:

Fred BARZEL,
1218 Jubille Drive,
Swift Current, Sask.

Hope your club is doing well and give my best to the boys.

H.C. SLEETH,
26 King George Rd.,
Brantford, Ont.

I'd like to obtain some of the stationery being sold by the club, but don't recall the value. Would you please let me know?

Ben BRODERICK,
Maple Creek, Sask.

REPLY

Stationery available from the Secretary at \$2.00 per 100.

Best regards to a good Canadian Magazine.

A. BANKS,
25 Hadley Rd.,
Toronto 7, Ont.

As yet I do not have a collection of my own but enjoy reading about other member's collections and articles written up for "GUN TALK".

W.J. GLENN
Climax, Sask.

Last summer I did a bit of horse trading in cold cash and steel and came up with a good one. My uncle had a Colt (Bisley) #277820 in 32 W.C.F. with pearl grips. This in itself is a good find but he then told me its history. It seems that his father who was a doctor during the flu years of 15-18, picked it up from a rancher by the name of O.F. Sydney MOWATT who could not come up with the fees of about thirty dollars. Sydney stated that he got it from Tom HOWRIE of Riel Rebellion fame, for a bottle of fire water.

Whether this gun went on Howrie's ride from Humboldt to Prince Albert I do not know, but it seems to bring out a bit of Saskatchewan history with the story.

Gordon ROGERS,
Box 261;
Rouleau, Sask.

I'd like advice in regard to protecting our investment when guns are mailed C.O.D. At present they are not subject to inspection until paid for.

Leith ROSS,
Cymric, Sask.

REPLY

On checking with the Express office and the Post Office, I was advised that C.O.D. parcels could not be opened for inspection until AFTER the charges have been paid for, as you stated. About the only way to check an article is to request a photo.

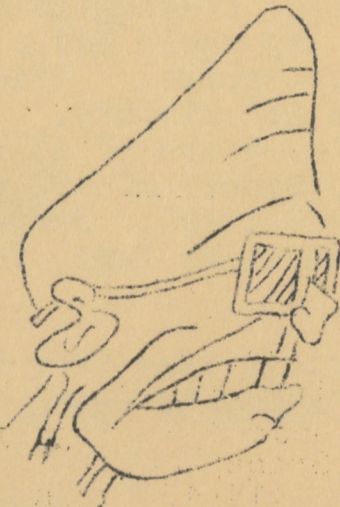
STOLEN GUNS

The following new rifles were stolen in Regina on January 3, 1965. If you locate one or more, please advise the Regina City Police or the Editor of "Gun Talk":

MAKE: Gevelot
Semi-automatic
.22 Calibre.

SERIAL NUMBERS: 63520
63585
5068F
6F632
6F609

SUGGESTION THAT HUNTERS HAVE EYES TESTED PRIOR TO
OBTAINING LICENCES

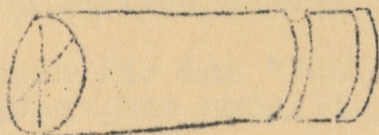


I don't have to get my eyes tested! I had it done when I joined the army in 1914. Besides I got my deer last year by clubbing it with my white cane.

The Editor:

Just received the current Journal and was interested in Smith's article on the Gallagher shotgun. I dislike citing old references when unable to find them for an exact quote, but believe I have this one clearly enough in mind to offer it for what it's worth. Some time back, when looking at an old Schyler, Hartley & Graham catalog, of about 1868, I noted a Gallagher shotgun advertized for sale. The ad went on to say that Poultney's patent shells were available from C.D. Leet. I recall the ad because I was interested in early shot shells especially Leet's. The earliest Leet shell I have is the same as one on the list of 1876 Frankford Arsenal collection, described as "Foil and Paper". It has a Pottet-type head but the casin is alternate brass foil and a sort of salmon coloured paper. This seems obviously the Poultney patent shell referred to in the ad. Later Leet shells had the same headstamp and the same color paper, but left off the foil layers. These are the ones usually seen in a shell collection.

I note that the 1864 SH&G catalogue lists Gallagher carbines but not the shotguns, though they show another gun using "Poultney's shell" and show that shell, which resembles the usual Smith carbine Poultney, except that there is a cannellure about 1/4" from the base in the cardboard. This one would require an external percussion cap, like the Smith carbine.



The explanation is still undertain. May be Gallagher made the shotguns, or maybe SH&G acquired their residue after the War and had them modified for sale as shotguns. The sequence of serials seems to favour the last conclusion.

Sincerely yours,

B.R. LEWIS,
Col. U.S.Army (Retired).

EDITORS NOTE:

Sincere thanks for adding further information to this peculiar weapon.

NAZI PARTY LEADERS WEAPON

(On the cover) Bob Henderson Collection

The WALTHER WAFFENFABRIK (weapons factory) at Zella Mehlis, Thuringia, Germany began manufacturing the P.P.K. (Polizeipistole Criminal) in 1931 for use by German police forces. It was ideal for easy concealment, having a $3\frac{1}{4}$ inch barrel, overall length being six inches.

These pistols were manufactured in .22, .25, .32 and .380 calibre. The above pistol is a 7.65.

After Germany began their military build-up prior to W.W. II, they were issued to various troops.

The eagle and swastika on the grips signify this pistol was worn by an officer in the S.A. (Nazi Political Party). A special feature is the grip extension attached to the clip.

By coincidence, I have located an identical pistol nine serial numbers away from this one in California.

It is a tremendous collectors item as well as being a fine shooter. It was in the hands of three collectors before I felt it was expensive enough to bother with. However, this seems to be a favourite pastime of collectors - letting a gun or other article pass through their fingers before realizing what it is.

But with the help of "GUN TALK" and the association, I hope others can manage to locate special items and recognize them.

Undoubtedly it helps to prove that "research" is half the battle in collecting.

THE URGE TO CRY



"Aint got that old gun my grad-daddy used in the Civil War no more. It didn't seem to work right after I blew the end off it trying to shoot fish in the creek, so I used the stock for firewood and the barrel as a crowbar."

A 73 FROM THE PAST - by Ben Broaderick

An old rusty Winchester with some tack marks on the stock, a story from an old cowboy and a letter from Winchester Gun Museum. This was the beginning of a search of records and interviews in an endeavour to unearth a history long lost in time. Had this gun been able to talk it would have saved many hours of searching. It could also have told many tales now lost forever. Who knows what trails and battles this old gun saw? What men came to an end when it belched smoke and flame?

The gun, a model 1873 Winchester carbine, calibre 44-40, Serial No. 3655 was sold from the Winchester factory on April 24, 1875. What firm or person it was sold to is not recorded, but it evidently came into the hands of an Indian. A row of tack marks encircling the stock near the butt and another row of tacks decorating the top of the stock from the butt to the tang indicate Indian ownership. Saddle wear on the fore stock shows it saw much use across the pommel of an unknown rider's saddle.

In the south-west corner of Saskatchewan lies the town of Maple Creek known to many as "The Old Cow Town". Many articles have been written about this town and the beautiful Cypress Hills to the south of Maple Creek. History has been recorded about this area which shows it to be one of the most historic districts in our great plains country. To this area in 1875 came the North-West Mounted Police and the building of Fort Walsh. This was the end of a period of lawlessness which would never be seen again.

On July 8, 1874, Comm'r. George A. French led a group of newly formed North-West Mounted Police out of Dufferin. Six weeks later this group reached Old Wives Creek where they encountered a Cree half-breed and his family, who were returning to Canada after wintering at Fort Benton, Montana. One member of that family was Gabriel Leveille who was then eight years old. Gabe's father, Louis Leveille was employed as a guide by the North-West Mounted Police after this meeting. In later years, Gabe Leveille became a guide and interpreter for the Force.

In 1877, about 5000 Sioux Indians under Chief Sitting Bull and Sub-Chief Spotted Eagle and Sweet Bird entered Canada after the Custer Massacre. Part of this tribe settled in the Cypress Hills near Fort Walsh and stayed four years before returning to the United States. With this band came the guns taken after the historic Massacre.

In 1925, Gabe Leveille was living in a cabin on War Lodge Coulee, a significant historical location in the Cypress Hills. This coulee has been linked with Indian war parties which gave it its present name. It was also a hang-out for outlaws wanted both in Canada and across the Border. In the Fall of 1925, Gabe was cutting firewood on a ridge at the south end of the coulee. He was working in a stand of large pine trees when he noticed an old rusty gun hanging on a dead branch in one of the trees. On retrieving this gun he found it to be an old Winchester carbine. He took the gun back to his cabin and during the winter cleaned

it up to a point where he was able to use it.

In 1931, Gabe gave this carbine to his nephew, Lagloire Leveille, a well known cowboy and bronc rider of the Maple Creek area. Lagloire stated that Gabe never did find out who owned the Winchester, but was always of the opinion that it had been placed in the tree by Indians when they buried the owner on a scaffold in the trees. Gabe looked for the scaffold, but found no trace of it. No doubt by then, it had fallen down and been covered up. The custom of the Sioux Indians was the burial of their dead on a scaffold of wood either set on wooden pillars or fastened in trees depending on the location. During the ritual the dead warrior's best horse was shot beside the scaffold so the deceased would have a fast and safe journey to the Great Land Beyond. All of the dead Indian's possessions were left with the body and no Indian would ever return to this place and take any of these possessions due to superstition. This would, therefore, account for the gun hanging for years in the tree.

In 1935, Lug Leveille gave this gun to a merchant of Maple Creek. I was fortunate enough to obtain it from this man and curious enough to learn the little history which is known linking this carbine with the past.

Today, as never before, gun collecting has become a hobby of thousands. Much too often the main object of collecting old firearms has been obscured and a small, but valuable part of our history has been lost. How often has a firearm been obtained by some collector, and the history of this gun not recorded? How many times have you picked up an old gun and thought, "If this gun could only talk, what tales would it tell?" I am still asking this Winchester that question.

CANADIAN WHO'S WHO

\$1.00 WILL ENTITLE YOU TO A

LIST OF COLLECTORS

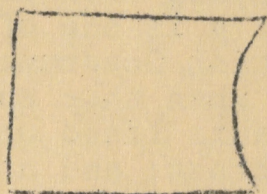
FROM

COAST TO COAST

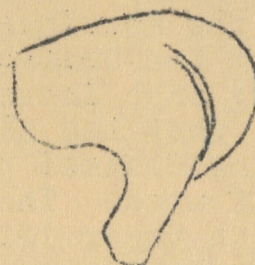
BOX 643, SASKATOON, SASK.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN HELMET IN EIGHT STEPS

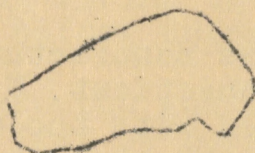
by Bob Henderson



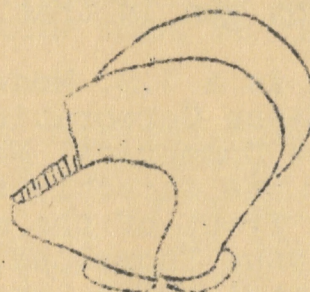
STEEL PLATE



SIDES CUT OUT FOR FITTING
CHEEK PLATES.



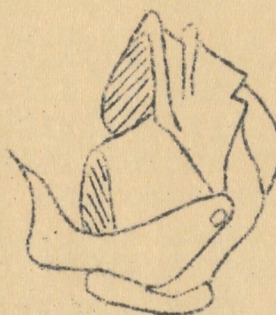
ASSUMES BOWL SHAPE



CHEEK PLATES IN PLACE



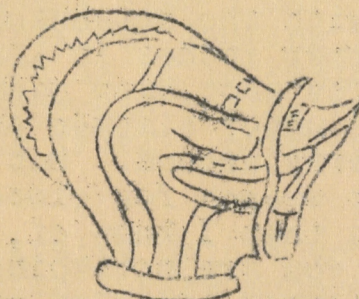
SIDES DEVELOPED



VISOR AND VENTAIL ATTACHED



CRANIUM MODELED



FILED, POLISHED, BORDERS
FINISHED, BANDS READY FOR
DECORATION.

THE THOMPSON SUBMACHINE GUN - by J.D. Abell

A short while ago I was fortunate enough to come into the possession of a Commercial Model Thompson gun in N.R.A. Excellent condition and in perfect working order. It came complete with the British service issue arms chest or carrying case and, judging from the markings, this gun apparently is one of those purchased from the United States by the British Government in 1940 during that invasion panic they had when they suddenly realized that they had about ten million Krauts lined up on the far side of the Channel preparing to step across; and no guns to fight them off with. The British had very effectively dis-armed themselves with their idiot-type gun laws which make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the average citizen to obtain or possess a gun; but that is another story. Sufficient to note that, if I were living in Britain today, I would stand a better chance of buying the Crown Jewels at auction for ten dollars than I would have of legally obtaining and retaining a fully-active Thompson gun in that country.

This gun is a U.S. Model of 1928A1 and was manufactured by the Auto-Ordnance Corporation, Bridgeport, Connecticut, U.S.A., and, being the Commerical Model, it is equipped with the twin pistol grips; one directly behind the trigger and the other positioned in front of the magazine directly under the barrel. All British issue Thompsons, to my knowledge, were equipped with these twin pistol grips, whereas the ones issued to the U.S. Armed Forces were equipped with horizontal, carbine type fore-ends. This front pistol grip greatly assists in keeping the gun on target during full automatic firing.

I chambers the .45 A.C.P. cartridge and will accomodate four different sizes and two differenty types of magazines; twenty and thirty shot box magazines and fifty or one hundred shot drums. It has an actual barrel length of ten and one-half inches but the Cutts Compensator adds two inches on to this. With this length of barrel, and using the .45 M1911 Ball or Tracer ammunition, it develops a muzzle velocity of about nine hundred and fifty feet per second with a muzzle energy of about four hunded and forty foot pounds.

The gun measures thirty-three and one-half inches in over-all length with the detachable butt-stock in place; twenty-five and one-quarter inches in length with this stock removed. With a loaded fifty shot drum magazine in place this gun weighs only a few ounces under sixteen pounds, which may sound like a lot of weight to carry around. But nevertheless, I think it is the ideal combat weapon for close-in work; it is the most reliable fighting gun that I know of, and besides, if some clown is shooting at you, you are not going to notice the extra weight, anyway. Unlike many other types of machine guns that I have fired, this Thompson has never had a malfunction of any kind with either factory-made ammunition or handloads.

Continued.....

The gun is recoil operated and fires from an open breech, that is, when cocked the action remains to the rear to facilitate cooling by allowing the air to circulate through the barrel and action between shots. This cooling is aided by the fins cut in the barrel. The bolt remains locked to the rear until the trigger is squeezed; whereupon it travels forward and strips the top cartridge from the magazine, pushing it into the chamber where it is fired by the hammer striking a portion of the frame, pivoting, and striking the firing pin when the action is fully closed. The hammer is so designed that it cannot strike the firing pin unless the action is fully closed.

No attempt should ever be made to close the action on a cartridge without firing as this will leave the action pressing forward with its weight resting on the firing pin. The first jar or knock that the gun receives will cause the firing pin to be forced forward thereby firing the cartridge, usually with rather startling, if not fatal, results. If it is desired to close the action without firing the weapon, the magazine must be removed from the gun before doing so.

To prepare the gun for firing with the drum magazine the action must first be cocked by pulling the Actuator Knob, commonly known as the cocking handle, as far to the rear as it will go. The Actuator Knob is located on top of the receiver. Set the safety lever on "SAFE" and the fire control lever for the type of fire desired; "FULL AUTO" or "SINGLE". These levers cannot be set unless the gun is cocked. Insert the drum magazine by guiding the two ribs on the magazine into the corresponding horizontal grooves in the side of the receiver and then sliding the magazine into the gun. The magazine may be inserted from either side but the manual specifies the left side as it is claimed that insertion from the right may injury the magazine catch. It cannot be inserted if the action is not cocked, and may be damaged if an attempt is made to do so.

To insert the box magazine; cock the weapon, place the safety lever on "SAFE" and set the fire control lever for the type of fire desired. Insert the magazine from the bottom of the gun by placing the rib on the rear of the magazine into the corresponding groove cut in the front of the trigger guard and pushing up until the magazine catch snaps into place. You may also insert the box magazines satisfactorily with the action forward, leaving the cocking of the weapon until you wish to fire as it is easier, and quicker, to cock the weapon than to fumble around trying to turn the safety lever a half turn from "SAFE" to "FIRE", particularly while wearing gloves or mittens.

Handloading for the Thompson is a necessity unless you intend to leave it hanging on the wall, which I very much doubt. Depending upon the rate of fire of that particular gun, it will cost between two and three dollars a second to fire the Thompson on full auto if commercial ammunition from C.I.L. is used; their price for fifty cartridges is nine dollars and fifty-

Continued....

Contrary to what the book says, I find that the gun works best with only a light film of oil on the mechanism, and, also contrary to the book, I find that the mechanism and compensator stay remarkably clean and free from gunk. Even after sustained firing the only foreign deposit in evidence is a light, soft coating of carbon ash and it does not build up appreciably. It seems to be continuously blown free and replaced after each shot.

The gun is also easy to clean. Simply apply Hoppe's No. 9 Nitro Powder Solvent throughout the action, bore and compensator with a tooth brush (preferably an old one; Hoppe's No. 9 smells nice, but tastes awful) and bronze wire bore brush that has been dipped in it. After allowing the Hoppe's to soak in, wipe all surfaces clean and dry, and then spray on a light coat of gun oil; I prefer the Browning Ultra-Fine Gun Oil. After allowing the oil to spread and soak in for a few minutes, simply wipe off the excess and you are back in business. The book recommends that after firing the gun should be stripped down and all parts of the gun that have been exposed to, or come in contact with, the powder gases or residue should be cleaned in a solution of a quarter pound of sal soda to a pint of very hot water, or boiling water if no sal soda is available. The parts must then be thoroughly dried and well oiled. However, this Thompson manual was written in the days when most, if not all, ammunition was made with corrosive primers and powders. I am of the opinion that such scrupulous sanitation is unnecessary in the present day provided modern ammunition of a non-corrosive nature is used. But, if you are using old war surplus ammunition or cartridges of doubtful age and/or ancestry, or handloading with cruddy components, I would suggest that you get out your old kettle and boil up a batch just to be on the safe side.

The front sight is of the fixed post type and is dovetailed into the top of the back band of the compensator. The rear aperture leaf sight is of Lyman manufacture and is graduated to six hundred yards; it is also adjustable for windage and drift when the leaf sight is raised to the vertical position. If the leaf sight is folded forward, a fifty yard open sight is exposed for close-quarter work. The gun may also be fitted with a fixed battle sight. Its effective range is said to be about three hundred yards but I think that an expert could be fairly disturbing as far away as the six hundred yards indicated on the aperture sight; providing, of course, he fired it on single rounds (semi-automatic).

According to the official British manual for this gun, the theoretical rate of fire is nine hundred to a thousand rounds per minute. The rate of fire for the regular U.S. Service Model is said to be somewhat slower; six hundred to seven hundred rounds per minute being claimed.

Continued.....

five cents plus the five percent provincial sales tax. This works out to over twenty cents a shot. I can handload a .45 A.C.P. cartridge for about a cent and a half, using cast lead bullets, which makes quite a difference.

I have done a bit of experimenting with handloads for the Thompson and have come up with some interesting information. The gun operates most rapidly, and with the most power, when using factory loads or the maximum loads recommended in the Lyman Reloader's Handbook. However, these heavy loads tend to scatter the empty brass for about fifteen or twenty feet to the right of the gun; just like a snow blower in high gear.

It seemed to me that for close range target practice a reduced load would be much more practical and subject the gun to less wear and tear in the process. So I loaded a batch using the Lyman #452460 200 grain cast lead bullet backed by three and one-half grains of "Bullseye" powder. These worked very well, the load being powerful enough to work the action of the gun, but not so powerful as to slap it back hard. The accuracy on full auto is much better with these loads as, instead of jumping around and having a slight tendency to climb and run off to one side as it does with full loads, the gun remains quite steady and level spitting the bullets into the target with surprising precision. In addition, because of the light recoil the rate of fire is considerably slower and the empty brass just flips out of the gun and falls at your feet in a pile. It is also quieter. If the powder charge was reduced any further, the empties would probably fail to eject, thus jamming the action.

I also tried four grains of "Bullseye" behind the aforementioned bullet. This load operated the gun somewhat faster than the lighter load and naturally had a bit more punch but held about as steady as the lighter load. I prefer this last load for target practice but for business purposes I would like a load of seven and six-tenths grains of "Unique" powder with this same bullet which is rated by Lyman as producing a muzzle velocity of nine hundred and eighty feet per second from a pistol barrel.

I suppose every young country goes through the hardships and tragedies historians have chronicled through the decades and mixed in with the bad was some good and some unusual. Apparently early western Canadian pioneers didn't encounter the calibre of Indian trouble as did our southern neighbors but this could be chalked up to kindness, understanding and our more lenient laws. For instance, if an Indian or for that matter a white man was picked up riding someone else's gee-gee north of the 49th parallel he would draw about 4 years of free room and board. Had he been apprehended south of the parallel all he got free was a meal and a fast prayer, if anyone felt like praying. In Canada a man seldom went hungry if he could help it and appetites ranged from the extreme to the extraordinary as in the case of an Edmonton Cree by the name of Swift Runner. He not only murdered all his family but ate them as well! Poor chap had no kin left to weep at his funeral.

As I mentioned earlier, our American friends had more Indian trouble than did Canadians and judging by the facts I agree. But where did the Indians go after getting Custer? You guessed it, Canada. Here they were safe as long as they behaved themselves. That's not all we got from the States. Our fair prairies became a resort for Yankee bad boys who had miles and miles of wilderness to fade into until resources peetered out and it was again time to rob a bank or two. Even Fort Whoop-Up achieved the reputation of being the whiskey centre of the West although there are those who are willing to dispute this statement. As one prairie paper stated "If all the liquor peddled by the Hudson's Bay Company was poured on the prairies it would look like an ocean compared to the Yankee puddle".

Several amusing stories have come to light concerning the affluent hooch trade. Alexander Henry, the younger, was informed that a drunk Indian brave had killed his wife. Upon investigation he discovered the woman bleeding profusely from a multitude of knife wounds but still alive. Her kin were sitting around her weeping and bawling, all plastered to the gills. After some first-aid the woman celebrated her recovery by getting plastered too. In another fracas an Indian had a healthy piece of his nose bitten off and promptly everyone present pitched in to find the severed portion which had gotten lost in the grass. Upon recovery the piece was stuck back on the sufferer's nose and the fun continued.

Although we look back at such incidents and shudder, the liquor trade did a lot in the way of employment and social life. The Mounties had a way to earn their keep, while building a reputation that would live forever and at the same time whiskey traders flowing into the country helped to populate the country as well as improve civic conditions through the stiff \$200 fines if they got careless. As for the social aspect, well what is a social gathering if you can't duck in and out of the dance hall for a short snort.

Despite all the cold ruthlessness of early Western Canada chivalry was far from dead. Some fellow by the name of Friday

once called a Mary Sinclair some bad name which she claimed defamed her. The court ruled a \$3.00 fine but Friday skipped town before the fine was collected.

Up until 1883 the world's oldest profession gave the law no trouble and vice versa. However, when the Mounties began clamping down on the gals it would be interesting to note that a lot of civic improvement was made through fines from the "wages of sin".

And even in those wooly days a man's name was as important as it is today, so to speak. Two young Indians were caught killing cattle in the Fort MacLeod area. Good Young Man drew a ten month sentence, but his compatriot Bad Young Man drew twelve months on the rock pile. Impartiality wasn't every magistrate's virtue. A Sarcee, who belted a Cree woman and shaved her head, drew two months on the rock pile. For doing the same to a Sarcee female he drew only two days. For shooting a dog, John Fisher was nailed twelve bucks. For the same offence a Peter Belanger was fined only three. See what a name can do?

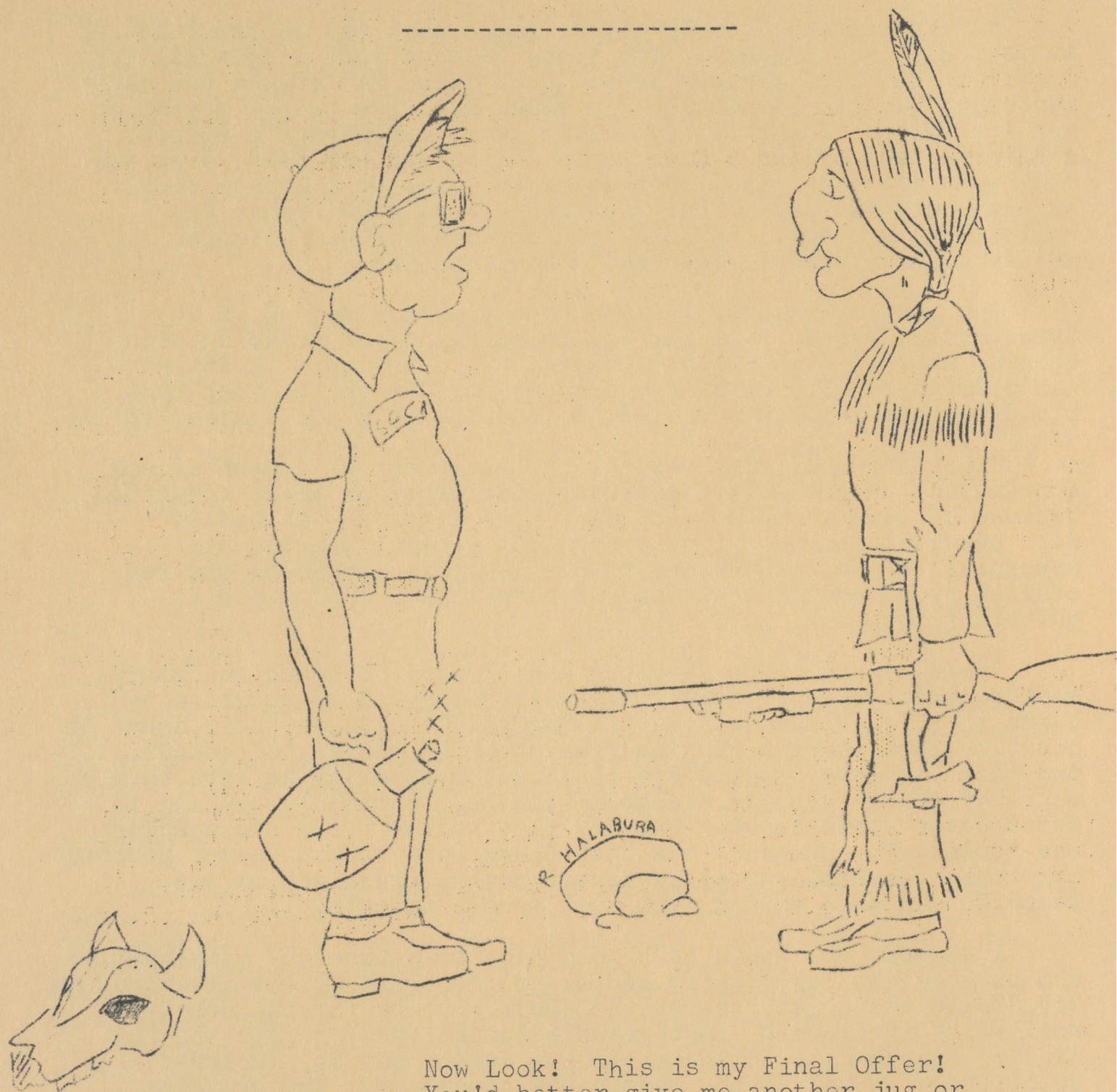
But the law was the law and pretty damn mixed up as two Sarcees discovered. Cut Lip was found guilty of stabbing with intent, whereas Crew Collar's charge of shooting with intent was dismissed. The different outcome was due to the fact that a blood-stained knife was easier to find than a blood-stained bullet.

Star Child, a prime suspect in the murder of a Mountie was apprehended several years after the incident but later acquitted because of lack of evidence. Some time later he was nailed with horse-theft and put away for four years. Despite his unpopular record and because of his legal knowledge he was recruited as a Mountie scout and history says earned himself quite a reputation.

There was in those days the usual quota of hoods and glory-seekers who seemed to favour the title "Kid". Such toughies as Burns the Kid, Virginia Kid, the Big Kid, etc. made their debut in court to face charges ranging from stealing horses to pemican. One poor chap the Crooked Kid could not draw anything more than a vagrancy charge despite his tough handle, certainly nothing to write Jesse James about. One boy that really tried his damndest was "Chickey". However, his best Black Bart routine never grossed more than ten dollars and no decent outlaw organization was ready to accept a member with such feeble talents.

I suppose now would be a good time to salute the missionaries who invaded the fur country and began the trend to civilization. The Jesuit and Oblate clergy, in their concern for the moral welfare of the redman, instigated a London enquiry into the fur trade. Fearing the consequences the Hudson Bay Co. declared a prohibition as far as the redman was concerned. The prairies however didn't suffer and even in the east the prohibition wasn't too successful. This, I should mention, was in 1860 and the rum-runners flourished happily until the Mounties stepped in in '74. Through the combined efforts of the Police and revenue agents the original Canadian was denied legal consumption until W.W.2.

This step was about as effective as the American 18th Amendment and in fact gave rise to more boot-legging and lawlessness. I hope that in presenting this historical sketch I have not shattered anyone's beliefs that early Western Canada was pure and free of the horrible ingrates we hear about. Not all the bad ones were from south of the 49th and our noble fur traders were not as noble as we believe they were. Even the noblest British traders would stoop mightily low if there was anything to gain. So pull yourselves together and learn to live with it.



Now Look! This is my Final Offer!
You'd better give me another jug or
I'll report you to your Chief!

GUN STANDARDS

ANTIQUE

- FACTORY NEW: All original parts; 100% original finish; perfect condition in all respects inside and out.
- EXCELLENT: All original parts, over 80% original finish; sharp lettering, numerals and design on metal and wood; unmarred wood; bore fine.
- FINE: All original parts, over 30% original finish; sharp lettering; numerals and design on metal and wood; good bore.
- VER GOOD: All original parts, nil to 30% original finish; original metal surfaces smooth with all edges sharp; clear lettering, numerals and design on metal; wood slightly scratched or bruised. Bore disregarded for collectors' piece.
- GOOD: Some minor replacement parts, metal smoothly rusted or lightly pitted in places, cleaned or reblued; principal lettering, numerals and design on metal legible; wood refinished, scratched, bruised or minor cracks repaired; in good working order.
- FAIR: Some major parts replaced, minor replacement parts may be required; metal rusted, may be lightly pitted all over, vigorously cleaned or reblued; rounded edges of metal and wood; principal lettering, numerals and design on metal partly obliterated; wood scratched, bruised, cracked or repaired where broken; in fair working order or can be easily repaired and placed in working order.
- POOR: Major and minor parts replaced; major replacement parts required and extensive restoration needed; metal deeply pitted, principal lettering, numerals and design obliterated; wood badly scratched, bruised or cracked and broken; mechanically inoperative, generally undesirable as a collectors firearm.

MODERN

- NEW: Not previously sold at retail, in same condition as current factory production.
- NEW: DISCONTINUED: Same as NEW, but discontinued model.
- PERFECT: In new condition in every respect.
- EXCELLENT: New condition, used very little, no noticeable marring (except at muzzle or sharp edges).
- VERY GOOD: In perfect working order, no appreciable wear on working surfaces, no corrosion or pitting, only minor surface dents or scratches.

GOOD: In safe working condition; minor wear on working surfaces, no broken parts, no corrosion or pitting that will interfere with proper function.

FAIR: In safe working condition, well worn, perhaps requires replacing of minor parts or adjustments. No rust, but may have corrosive pits that do not make it unsafe or inoperative.

POOR: Badly worn, perhaps requires major adjustment or repairs to operate.

SPECIAL INTEREST

At the last meeting of club members held at Saskatoon, Sask., on March 27th, 1965, it was decided to hold a Contest to obtain a pattern for a design to make cuff links, tie clips, etc., for the members of the S.G.C.A.

Designs must be submitted by April 30th, 1965, to the Editor, Sask. Gun Talk.

The person submitting the winning design will be awarded a set of cuff links and a tie clip in that design; purchased from club funds.

Every member should try to participate in this type of event so a cross section of ideas will come to light.

The drawings should be made within a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " square - any shape, design or wording, etc. Just bear in mind it will be probably much smaller when produced - the size will be decided when a design is chosen.

Sit down and sketch out your ideas in rough - it doesn't have to be a "Russell" or "Rembrandt".

It is hoped the final design will be decided at the Saskatoon Gun show on Labour Day weekend.

MISSED OFF THE MEMBERSHIP LIST

Bill STOTHARD,
753 - 11th Street,
BRANDON, Manitoba.

H.A. STORRISON,
1160 Pharmacy Avenue,
SCARBOROUGH 4, Ont.

CORRECTIONS TO MAKE ON YOUR MEMBERSHIP LIST

C.W. BAILEY,
Box 300,
CLIMAX, Sask.

R.C. HALABURA,
LANIWC I P.O., Sask.

A. AVERY,
Box 132,
FORT McLEOD, Alta.

Robert W. SCHOUTEN,
Trans Canada Trailer Crt.,
Box 14, MOOSE JAW, Sask.

Michael WYTOSKY,
907 - 1st St. E.,
PRINCE ALBERT, Sask.

Mark BUTLER,
1454 Rae St.,
REGINA, Sask.

Art DUNLAP,
1301 Spadina Cres. W.,
SASKATOON, Sask.

Mike KOROL,
229 Winnipeg Ave. N.,
SASKATOON, Sask.

Fred BORZEL,
1218 Jubilee Drive,
SWIFT CURRENT, Sask.

W.C. GRAHAM,
Box 225,
WOLSELEY, Sask.

T.W. STARK,
9419 - 12th St. S.W.,
CALGARY, Alta.

Cpl. G.W. BLACK,
R.C.M. Police,
"A" Division,
OTTAWA, Ont.

Adam John DAVIDIUK,
289 Laverly Road,
TORONTO 8, Ont.

James GOODING,
Box 2037,
Station "D",
OTTAWA, Ont.

Col. B.R. LEWIS,
2104 Riviera Drive,
VISTA, California,

H.H. BITZ,
Box 126,
BOX ELDER, Montana.

Dr. John R. BREWER,
Fort Belknap Indian Hosp.,
HARLEM, Montana.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

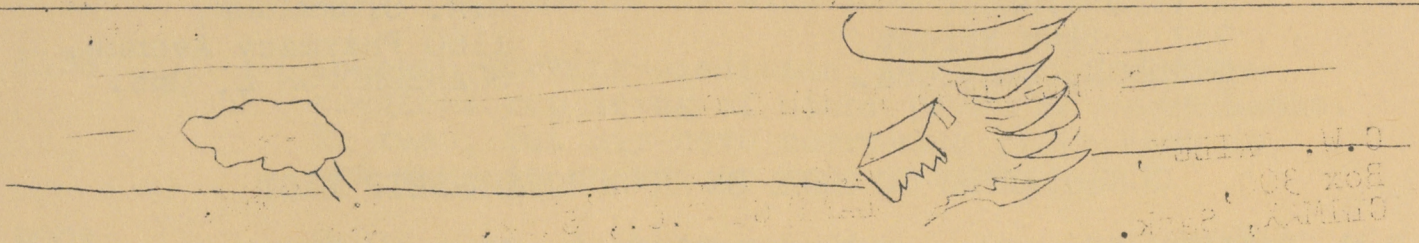
Jospeh FARN,
Box 103,
LOON LAKE, Sask.

Vernon CHARNETSKI,
PRELATE, Sask.

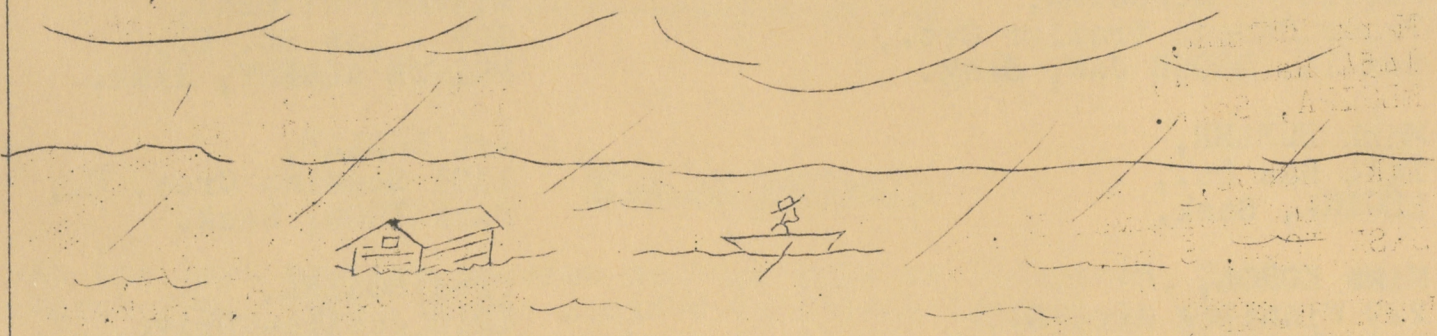
James MILLAR,
418 Edward St.,
REGINA, Sask.

Earl HAYNES,
14 Munro Place,
REGINA, Sask.

NEITHER WIND

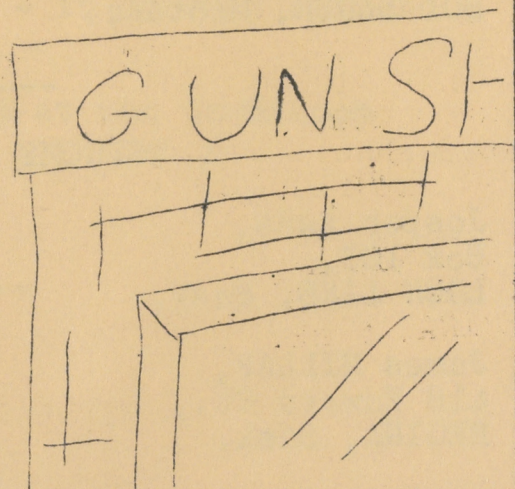
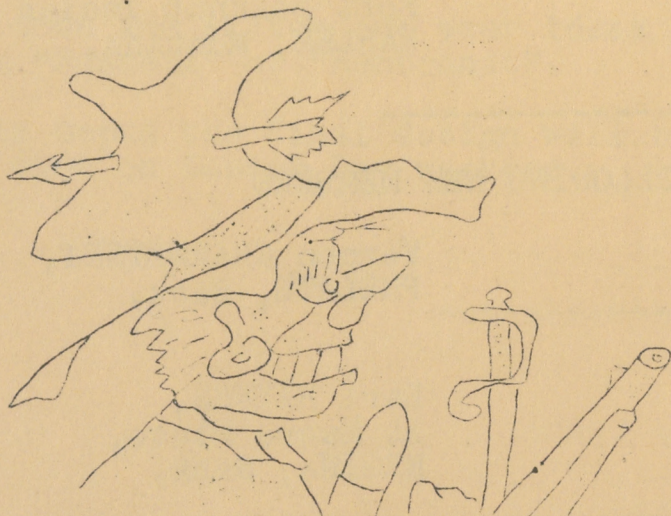


OR RAIN



...OR SNOW

WILL KEEP AN ENTHUSIAST FROM A SHOW!



SASKATOON - 24/25 MAY

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

| | |
|---|---------|
| "As New" German 98K Mauser Rifles, 8mm, caliber, with original regimental markings | \$29.50 |
| "As New" Czech BRNO Model VZ-24 Mauser Rifles, 8mm | 29.50 |
|Matched Set (98K and VZ-24)..... | 55.00 |
| "As New" Lee Enfield No. 5 Jungle Carbines | 27.50 |
| "As New" Lee Enfield No. 1 Mark III Military Rifles | 14.50 |
| .303 Short Lee Enfield No. 4 Rifles "As issued" | 17.50 |

FOR BLACK POWDER SHOOTERS

| | |
|---|---------|
| 20-gauge Double Barrel Percussion Shotguns | \$39.50 |
| Lightweight "Kentuckt" Type Sculptured Stock Percussion Shotguns | 29.50 |
| Military Type Flintlock Muskets | 39.50 |

Double Barrel Riot Guns 12-gauge, English make,
outside hammers 2-1/2" chamber. Excellent
throughout. Ideal for protection. A collectors
item \$29.50

Springfield M.22A1, .22 cal. Rifles, excellent con. 49.50

Stevens Model 520, 5-shot, 12-ga. pump, 20" barrel 39.50

U.S. M-1 Carbine, .30 cal., 15-shot, semi-auto,
gas-operated, new 89.50

...Extra 30-shot magazine available 5.95

New Straightaway Ear Protectors - a must for every
shooter 19.50

New Lyman Ammunition Maker - state caliber 34.50

New Lyman Vandalia Shot Shell Reloading Press-state cal. 39.50

Famous Enfield & Webley .38 S&W caliber Revolvers
As new throughout. Single and Double Action 19.50

HardHitting Webley .455 cal. Revolvers. Excellent Con. 29.50

NEW PRECISION SPOTTING SCOPES

Buhl Scor-Maker: 25 -power, most practical magnification
for target shooter. Eyepiece axis offset 45° from
objective lens axis. Weight 3 lbs. Can be folded for
storage without removing scope from tripod.c/w tripod \$129.50

L.M.Dickson Zoom: 15xto 30X Weight, 3 lbs. 8 oz., cast
tripod with folding legs adjustable scope clamp 99.50

Bushnell Sentry: 20-power eyepiece, effective
aperture of objective 50mm. Scope 59.50
Tripod 18.50

Complete selection of Rifles, Shotguns, Pistols
as well as Military Models, at the lowest prices.
State Model Desired and Save.

INTERNATIONAL FIREARMS CO. LTD.

1011. BLEURY STREET

MONTREAL 1, QUEBEC

THE RAPID FIRING ELECTRIC CANNON - UTOPIA OF TODAY

(From the German Nazi Magazine "Signal" - French Edition, December 1941, translated into English by R. Duquette)

A rapid firing cannon of 150 mm with a reach of 250 Klm and a rate of 750 shots a minute cannot be reached with a normal artillery piece. Only electricity will give to the armourers of tomorrow the means permitting them to give their shells the initial necessary speeds.

Is it possible to build an automatic cannon that would increase in considerable proportion, the results already gained by the machine gun to build a gun of larger calibre, with a far reaching point and fast shooting capabilities? The expert will frown and say "Impossible! I think only of ----". He will enumerate a vast number of technical difficulties that would have to be overcome. Suddenly it dawns; he heard once some time ago about an electric cannon of which the projectile would be launched by magnetic strength. If the problem were solved, what reach would it have? 250 Kms. What calibre? 150 mm. What would the rate of fire be? Between 500 and 1000 rounds a minute.

This starts him thinking, calculating and scribbling formulae on a piece of paper. What seemed to be a dream, a bold utopia, begins to shape up in his mind. Slowly the ideas come to make sense. It requires careful planning since even one who shapes a utopia must not go beyond the frontiers of reason. Some solutions show to be impossible, others take their place.

Let us examine the results we get from those efforts; a piece of artillery with far reaching power, soundproof, with no muzzle flash, and projectiles shot electrically at an unimaginable speed. The shell stays about one-tenth of a second in the bore; casings and cleaning rods become useless. When the shell is maintained in a state of suspension in the tube, its rotating motion is transmitted electrically. Breech reinforcement devices and rifling become obsolete. To obtain a high ballistic result, a current superior of 1,000,000 kilowatts is necessary, it must come from high tension wires. It is far more than could be given by the biggest German power plants. But a meter fed by several power plants would satisfy those needs during the night.

The price it would cost to shoot during a period of ten minutes (7,500 shells) would come to about 5,000 marks.

To transport the cannon, the tube (barrel) is broken into three parts of equal length, which can, at any moment, be moved on special racks drawn by tractors and brought to any point where ramps have been constructed. The tube, of high cost and complicated manufacture is kept for a short period at each batter. The racks, which resemble a bridge in their construction, remain attached to the cannon proper at all times.

Continued.....

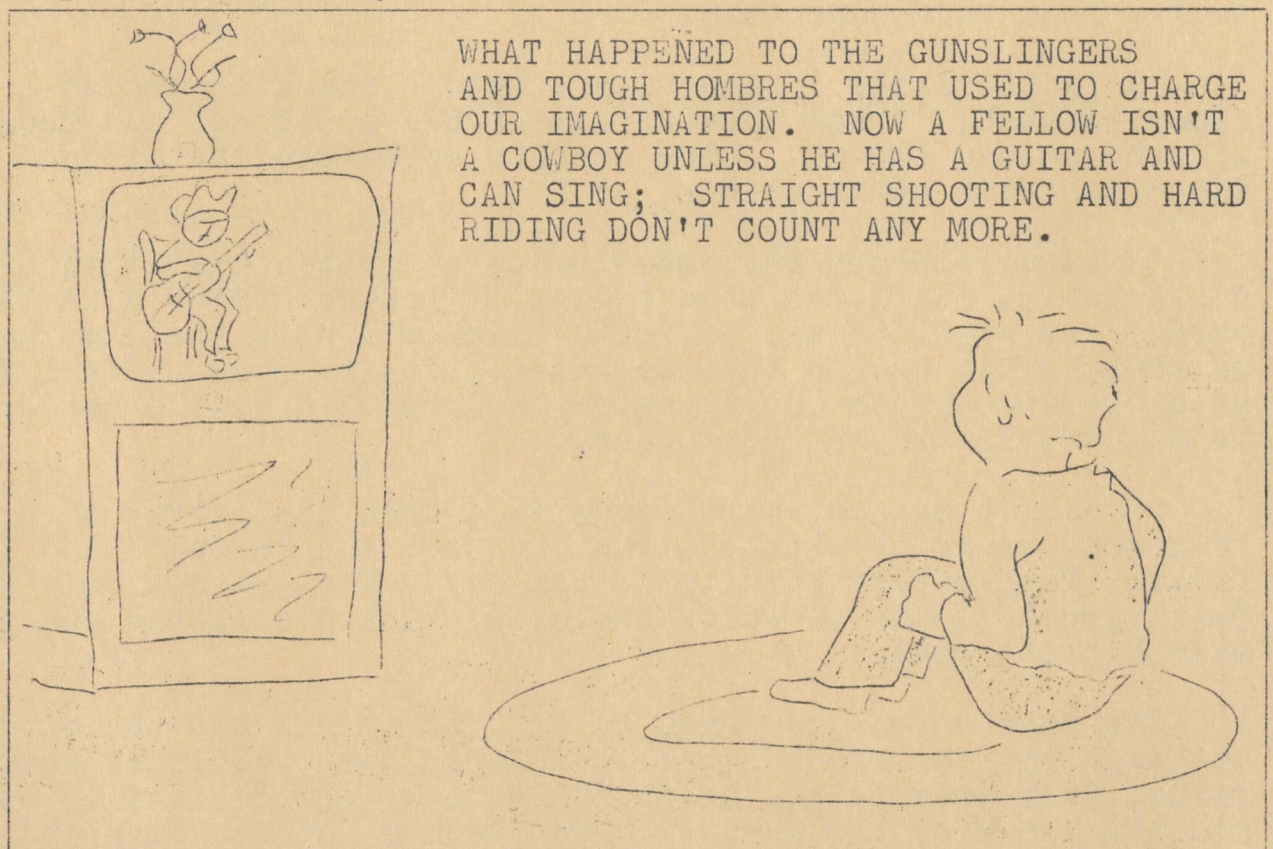
The control room is buried at a depth of 15 meters. When the weapon is not firing, the tube and ramp rest on the ground. It is then that the camouflaged supports receive the tubes which are brought on the original racks. The tubes are then unloaded and riveted to the permanent supports. The vehicles leave, the camouflage is taken off, and the tube inclined to about 55 degrees ready to fire. The ammunition is fed automatically from the top of the breech so without interrupting the firing, you can vary the aiming point. The variations in elevation are very small - for example at a distance of 25 kilometers, a difference of 140 mm at the muzzle is sufficient to cover an area of one km wide.

Compressed air cools the weapon - the coils of the electromagnets, overcharged, are spaced with narrow cooling channels. When the shell is fired, it chases the air in front, which in turn brakes propulsion. To circumvent this inconvenience, holes have been drilled between the coils in the muzzle.

The chain of 750 shots minute can only be attained with a perpetual chain. A powerful motor brings the shells on the chain at a rate of ten kilometers an hour. They are brought to the breech of the cannon and fed by the power of the first electromagnet.

The control room operates the high tension cable powering the cannon. Three separate cables feed the cannon its power.

A reconnaissance aircraft directs the fire and transmits its observations to the battery headquarters, who elevate and lower the gun electrically.



THE OLD ONES - by Wes Bailey

Starting with this issue I will endeavor to write something of interest to the rest of the membership. In short, I will touch on the numerous phases of collecting and shooting and a general report of what is happening in the southwest. I will also try to feature a gun from time to time when something interesting comes along.

This past fall saw the start of a revolution in my hunting. For the first time I stoked up the 15 gauge percussion shotgun I have and tried some pheasant hunting with it. Not only is it hard to describe my own thoughts on it, but even harder to describe the looks on my hunting companions faces when I pulled that contraption out of the case and started to load it up.

Being a novice at muzzle loading arms my first tow loads were not very acceptable but to follow this I would have to describe the loading procedure.

First the powder, about 3 drams of Fg and then a wad, this was my first mistake. For wadding I used toilet tissue made a little square and squeezed it down the barrel (only one wad). Next I put in the shot, 1 oz. of #4 and another chunk of toilet tissue.

I didn't find a pheasant but my first shot came at a sharp-tail about twenty yards out, I pulled back the hammer, aimed and shut both my eyes (I think I thought there would be a terrible explosion) I pulled the trigger and pop! A hell of a lot of smoke, no kick and no bird.

A little later I came upon a bobcat sneaking around a little clump of bush, I took careful aim at his south end and touched off the second barrel. Same results as before, no cat and I didn't see him again either.

I then reloaded the smoke pole, only this time a little differently. With the same amount of powder tamped a little harder and with the wad a little thicker I used the same amount of shot. This was in the one barrel, in the other barrel I used the same loads but I tamped the powder a little harder and used a double wad on the powder.

I didn't see any more birds so I took the liberty of a shot at a post at about thirty yards and used the barrel I had loaded first. Much better results I must say. The gun not only brought forth great clouds of white smoke but kicked a little and I even hit the post.

We were on our way back to the car when I had the opportunity to discharge the other barrel. A small bush rabbit at about ten yards, fell prey to the devastating blast of that load. Not only did the gun kick the way a shotgun should but the fire and smoke made it look like some kind of a cannon on a battlefield and laying on the ground my first live game shot with a muzzle loader. So ended the first day.

I did use the old gun again with this improved method of loading but didn't have any success on flying birds, no doubt practice will help.

The gun I am going to feature in this issue is a Winchester from my own collection. For that matter most of the guns featured in future articles will be Winchesters as they are my main interest in collecting.

For Winchester collectors an item of interest for this month is as follows:

Winchester Model 1895, Calibre .303 British, Serial No. 363684, factory extra features is noted in that it is taken down and has factory sling eyes.

A couple of other interesting things about this rifle are the markings. On the rear of the breach block is tamped from W.F. Sheard, Tacoma Wash. and on the barrel London proof marks of sometime after 1925. Looking at the serial number I would say it left the factory about 1908 and was then sold from W.F. Sheard's store. I managed to make a deal for the gun in B.C. so one can see how much this one has travelled.

Another point of interest to a Winchester collector are the markings on the frame and the upper tang.

On the Frame: Model 1895
 Winchester
 Trade Mark

Both of these markings are different from any of those shown in the Winchester Book.

That appears to be about it for this issue in the next one my own interpretation on gun condition ratings according to the N.R.A. antique standard.

CALGARY
GUN
SHOW
APRIL 65

SUGGESTION

RE: AWARDS TO MEMBERS DISPLAYING AT THE ANNUAL SASK. GUN SHOWS

It has been suggested the above awards be broken down to the following catagories:

- 1) The best overall collection of RIFLES. **
- 2) The best overall collection of HAND GUNS.
- 3) The best overall collection of EDGED WEAPONS.
- 4) The best overall collection of CARTRIDGES.

-
- 5) The best single RIFLE. **
 - 6) The best single HAND GUN.
 - 7) The best single EDGED WEAPON.

THE WINNER OF ONE AWARD WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE FOR A SECOND AWARD AT THAT SHOW - THIS ALLOWS THE AWARDS TO BE SPREAD AMONG SEVEN DIFFERENT COLLECTORS.

WE MUST HAVE YOUR COMMENTS ON THIS CONTROVERSIAL SUGGESTION. THE REMARKS, BOTH FOR AND AGAINST THE IDEA WILL BE PUBLISHED. IF YOU DON'T BOTHER WRITING, IT WILL SIGNIFY YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT THE CHANCE TO EXPRESS YOUR IDEAS TO THE REST OF THE MEMBERS.

** RIFLES INCLUDE SHOTGUNS, ETC.

GUN TALK WITH FRED

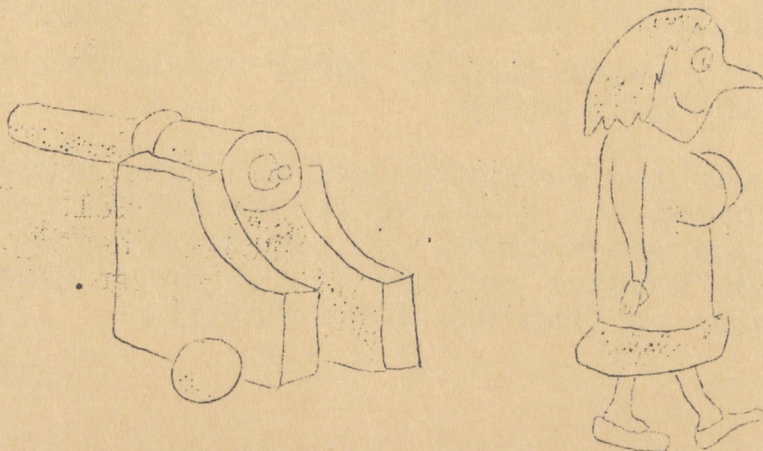
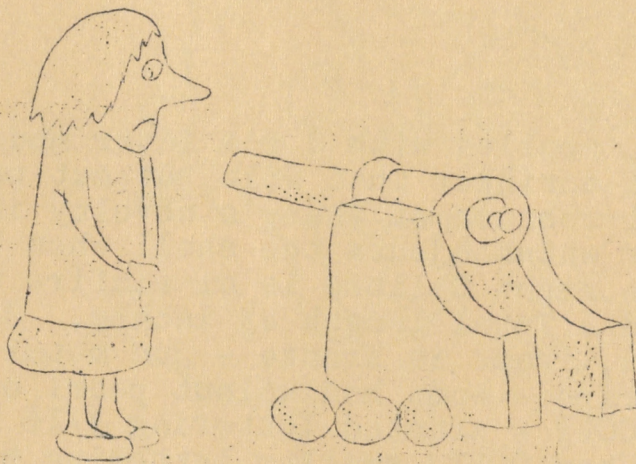
I promised nothing but guns and more guns in this issue of "GUN TALK with Freddy", but unfortunately I will not be able to comply with this promise.

I find that at the present time I am up to my neck in pistol shooting and matches. Just to show how the calendar gets loused up, I am trying to get the first Western Canada Pistol Matches on the road, get the Regina Spring Shoot rolling and couple of more shoots in between. Fellows I am swamped.

The Western Canada Pistol Matches is a real big shoot and sports some \$1,500 in trophy prizes and will be one of the biggest shoots ever held in Canada. Quite a bit of work is entailed in organizing this match and I have a bit of a rather large hunk of the work for myself. It seems something will have to suffer and unfortunately it is this issue of GUN TALK WITH FRED.

I hope to have most of this work cleaned out of the way before the next issue and then I will do my best to get something readable at last in this column.

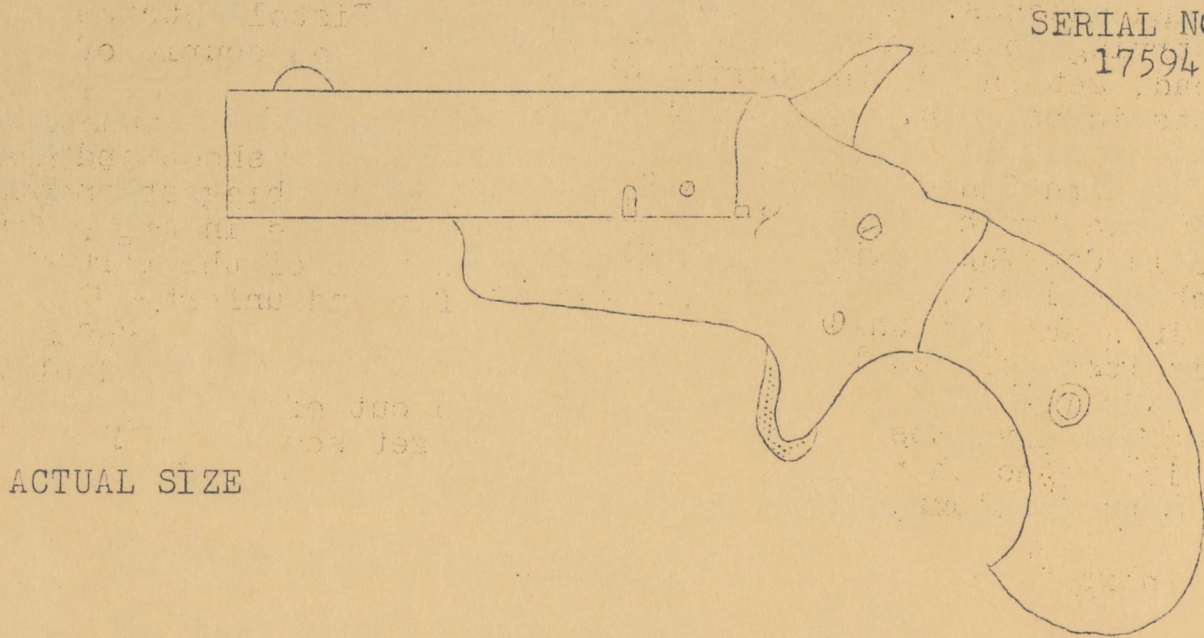
Till next issue, good gun collecting.



BH

GUN GAZING - by Ron Hill

While sitting her gazing at an old Colt Deringer hanging on the wall, some thoughts started running through my mind. I wondered who owned it first - did it ever sit in on a card game, did any gambler, holding five aces ever look into the muzzle of it because it appears that it would give anybody a substantial bellyache if he didn't move fast enough. Just in case you have one kicking around in the dresser drawer or some place, try this for size:



This Deringer, spelled with 2 r's later model spelled Derringer, is the third model deringer that Colt put out probably known better as the "Thuer" model because of Thuer's novelty invention of an automatic extractor which ejects the shell when barrel is turned on its pivot to the right Calibre is 41 rimfire short. Barrel length is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches - Total length $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Barrel spur trigger and hammer are iron, frame is bronze - gun metal nickle plated 2 piece rosewood grips - some had walnut pearl or ivory grips. Barrel markings - COLT - slanted lettering $\frac{3}{16}$ high (second type). First type had COLT, smaller lettering block type, $\frac{1}{8}$ " high. Then again some deringers old in London had Colt's Fire-arms Co. Pall Mall, London, stamped on the side of the barrel in two lines. This deringer has a colt stamped on the left side with a C above the middle of its back - first at the lower right hand corner of the barrel out on the bronze about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch.

Serial No's are found usually under the barrel and under the grips stamped in the grip strap.

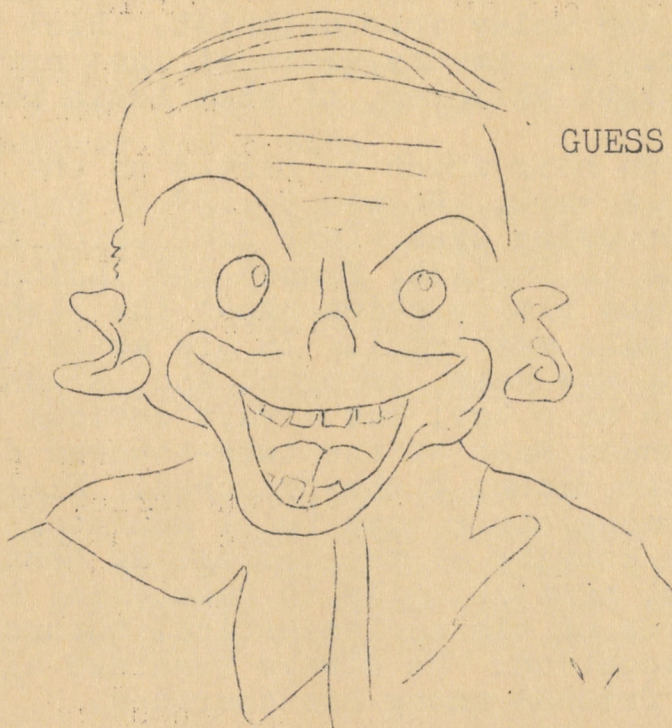
Some of the earlier deringers had a higher angled spur on the hammer also underneath the frame where the barrel screw is located this portion was raised. In the models such as this, the frame has been made thicker but the "birds head" grip is fairly sharply angled, more so than the later design.

continued...

The barrel is locked in position by the firing bar on the hammer which engages a notch in the top of the barrel at the time it strikes the cartridge. Serial numbers on this type deringer should run well over 25,000 whereas the older deringer with the smaller barrel markings are more scarce and serial numbers should be under 2,000.

The F.A. Thur breech loading, side swing deringer, was patented July 12, 1870.

The new No. 4 "spelled Derringer" manufactured in 1960 are of .22 calibre, short, rimfire. Frame is gold color, barrel, trigger and hammer blued (larger) almost 5 inches overall and almost of identical design.



GUESS WHO GOT WHAT

----Then I said "Shucks buster, those One In One Thousands are real common - you can tell by the world THOUSANDS in the name. I'll trade you a Jungle Carbine and cash to the amount of ----

LOUIS RIEL

Louis "David" Riel, was born into a non-nomadic Metis family at St. Boniface or St. Vital which was then the Northwest Territories, on October 22nd, 1844.

Riel adopted the name of "David", insisting that he was a leader by divine selection. He assumed the status of a prophet and a high priest, playing continually upon the credulity of his superstitious listeners. Riel invested some terms of his own in his projected system. To Captain Young, who had custody of Riel during the rebellion of 1885, he explained that his word "EXOVEDE" was derived from two Latin words - "EX" from, and "OVILLE" Flock, and that as his council was not a council but being composed of exovedes, we have called it "EXOVEDATE" - his statement to Captain Young that he was one of the flock, with no special authority is not borne out by the documents exhibited at his trial, since some of them were signed by him alone as "EXOVEDE" - Riel signed his name in the following manner - Louis "David" Riel - Exovede.

Louis Riel Senior, Metis, of mixed French, Irish and Indian blood had a mill on the Seine near St. Boniface. He had been a leader of the "Free trade in furs" movement in the 1840's. Himself a fierce and noisy revolutionist. Riel Sr. died in 1864 when Riel Jr., was twenty years of age; he was survived by his wife and eight children, of whom Louis was the oldest.

Riel had brown hair which he parted on the right side and brought over into a curl. He was 5' 11" in height, had a broad brow and dark protruding eyes, fair complexion and wore a reddish beard. Riel spoke in English, French and Indian Cree. He was a fiery speaker and his oration about the rights of his people - the Metis - was quite masterful. In his spare time he took up writing poetry; he was vain, arrogant and headstrong and somewhat introspective as a boy; but always serious minded. From childhood he attended Mass at the twin-towered cathedral in St. Boniface, where Bishop Tache preached. Riel was selected by Bishop Tache among other boys to be educated in Eastern Canada, and was a scholar at the College de Montreal. His studies were satisfactory, particularly in rhetoric, although lack of humility in the eyes of his ecclesiastical tutors unfitted him for a religious vocation. He always remained aloof, egotistical and without real friends among his comrades.

As Riel did not come up to the required standard to be educated for the priesthood, that idea was abandoned and he returned to the Red River Settlement; in 1869 - he did not stir up the insurrection, but moulded it and gave it form according to his judgement or impulse. His education, his eloquence, his knowledge both of the English and French languages, and his genuine belief in the justice of the Metis cause marked him out at once as the curious leader of his people, and to him the frightened, confused Metis turned. Their obvious need for leadership gave young Louis confidence, and he was able, in turn, to inspire them with a sense of national destiny. Several meetings were held and the decisive day for Riel was on Nov. 2nd., 1869. On that day he had a band of armed Metis occupy Fort Garry without

opposition. It was a daring and decisive act. Situated at the junction of the Red River and the Assiniboine, with ample stores of food and munitions, and defended by stone walls, Fort Garry was both the geographical and strategic centre of the Red River Settlement. Whoever controlled the fort controlled the colony. The Metis set up a provisional government with Louis Riel as president. Loyal Canadians to the number of about one hundred were disarmed and made prisoners in the fort, the climax however, was reached when a young Irish-Canadian named Thomas Scott, who apparently had been too outspoken to suit Riel, was shot. All other prisoners were released except Scott who refused to recognize the actions of the Provisional government with Louis Riel as president, and was abusive to his guards and incited the other prisoners to insubordination. A "court martial" was hastily convened and Scott was charged of breaking jail - insubordination, inciting a revolt, assault, and of breaking the oath "not to take up arms against the provisional government" - Scott after a perfunctory court-martial was shot on March 4th, 1870 and all other prisoners released.

Riel's regime came to an end upon the arrival of a military force under Colonel Garnet Wolseley, and Riel fled to the United States.

In 1882 Louis Riel married a Metis, Marguerite Monet Belhumeur, a gentle illiterate woman of the prairies, one half Blackfoot; to whom he had a daughter and a son.

During the next ten years Riel remained in obscurity; in the eyes of the French speaking friends in the United States, he became more and more irrational both in his actions and in his views. As a result, he was committed early in 1876, to the St. Jean de Dieu Asylum at Longus Pointe, and several months later to the asylum at Beauport near Quebec, under fictitious names.

A naturalization certificate was found by a researcher for the Manitoba archives, which was uncovered among some papers which had been turned over to the Manitoba Government by the Metis Historical Society. The document shows that Riel specifically denied his allegiance to Queen Victoria, in order to become an American Citizen.

Historians regard the document as an authentic copy, and say it is quite possible Riel was naturalized in 1883 which is shown on the document, as he was in Montana at the time as the date on the document indicates, and had been there since 1878. He did not leave that territory - as it was then - until he got the call from the Metis and Indians in 1884 to come back and lead them in their grievances against the government, which subsequently led to the North West Rebellion.

For five years Riel lived in St. Peter's, Montana where he was teaching school in the little settlement of Sun River country at the Jesuit Mission School.

Then on June 4th, 1884, four men rode into the little settlement

and with them they carried an urgent invitation to the former Metis president of the Provisional Government to return to the North-West to lead another protest against the Government of Canada; these four men were Gabriel Dumont, Michael Dumas, Moise Ouellette and Majes Isbister.

The grievances among the Metis in the North-West Territories concerned the issue of patents for their lands, the securing of river frontage, the abolition of taxes on wood, and right for those who did not have script in Manitoba.

Some steps had been taken to meet the demands but these were not sufficient and, it was said the silence of the government produced great dissatisfaction in the minds of the people.

Riel returned to the North-West on or about July 1, 1884 when he appeared at the little hamlet of Batoche, and was once more among his people. No sooner had Riel settled at Batoche than he began holding public gatherings, trumpeting his adopted task to labour, as he said, for the rights of the halfbreeds and Indians, irrespective of other interests, whether Church or State. On all these restless and hungry natives Riel turned a covetous eye. Egged on, not only by dissatisfied halfbreeds but by many white settlers, fortune hunters and land sharks who feigned concern for the halfbreed farms while hoping for an issue of speculation land script. The reckless leader began to show a favour of force, lest further petitions should fail to bring results; and at meeting after meeting the heirdom people of the plains, feeling themselves completely ignored by the government, called upon their leader to lift the yoke that threatened.

The decisive day came on March 19, 1885, the day of the feast of St. Joseph the patron saint of the Metis, which was to be celebrated by a baptism, and to which the Metis from nearby settlements flocked into Batoche, carrying their rifles with them. The moment was opportune and Riel took advantage of it. With all the fire and spirit which he could command in his speech, he told the assembled gathering that the Mounted Police were preparing to attack them and suppress their movement. With a group of excited followers Riel rushed towards the Church and thrusting the protesting Priest aside, took possession of the building which he used as his headquarters.

There were engagements at Duck Lake on March 26 and at Fish Creek on April 24, and Cut Knife about the beginning of May and there were other minor encounters.

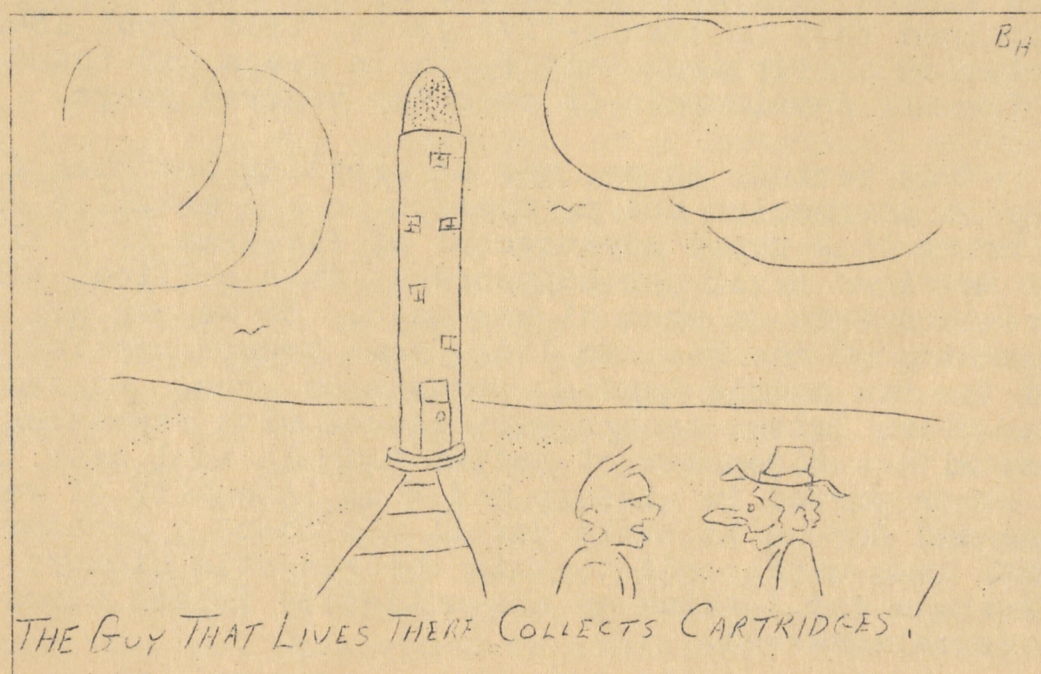
On April 2, the Cree's of Big Bears' band massacred several men at Frog Lake then descending the Saskatchewan River they terrified the inhabitants of Fort Pitt into surrender.

Decisive action came with the arrival from the east of troops under General Middleton. The rebels were defeated in a four day battle at Batoche; which ended on May 12 and a few days later Riel was taken prisoner.

On July 6, 1885 Riel was charged with treason and brought to trial at Regina before a court consisting of His Hon. Col. Hugh

Richardson, Stipendiary Magistrate, and a six man jury. The trial, (which was held at the Scarth building Regina, where the Federal building now stands which served as an early court house). The trial which was a long one, resulted in a verdict of "Guilty" with a recommendation of mercy; an appeal was lodged but failed and on Nov. 16th., 1885 Riel was executed at the N.W.M.P. Guardroom at Regina.

Traffle Bonneau, a highly respected French-Canadian received delivery of the body which was given final resting place in the cemetery at St. Boniface across the Red River from Winnipeg, and was buried outside St. Boniface Cathedral where Riel had gone to school as a boy. Riel's grave is marked by a modest monument which bears the simple inscription - RIEL 16 November 1885.



NOTE:

The S.G.C.A. Centennial Project will be combined with the Saskatoon Gun Show to be held on May 24/25. BE SURE TO ATTEND.

S.G.C.A. Crests are still available from the Treasurer. BUY ONE NOW.

CIVIL WAR CARBINES - L.J. Smith

Sometime ago, when a non-collector friend was looking at our display of antique arms, he asked a very plain and straight-forward question-- "Why did you decide to collect guns of the American Civil War period?" A simple question usually deserves an equally simple and uncomplicated answer but, to a non-collector, where does one start when he can't see a great deal of difference between a model 73 and a 94 Winchester, or a Sharps and a star carbine.

Well, we started away back at the invention of gun powder and the hand cannon; then we went through the slow evolution of match-lock and wheel-lock; to the flintlock where the development of guns slowed to a standstill for over a hundred years. Then we explained that in twenty-five years, from about 1840 to 1865, the evolution of firearms went forth in leaps and bounds, surpassing by far all development in over two hundred years.

This period, to me, was an exciting one when flintlock gave away to percussion and percussion to the metallic cartridge. Then to bring this rapid advancement of firearms to a higher degree, the American Civil War happened at this critical time to put the inventors into an even higher gear. So we can say that at the beginning of the War, in 1861, some troops carried flintlocks and the new muzzle loading percussion arms. At the end of the War, four years later, troops were issued with repeating cartridge arms with a firepower of better than 15 to 1 over the muzzle loader. No other period in history had this intensity of weapon importance and not until World War II was there a greater variety of small arms used. Add to this the romantic history of one hundred years ago and I think my non-collector friend almost had his question answered.

But, to the gun collector there are many more reasons why he picks a certain period or type of gun to collect. The first consideration would be that of supply and demand. For a person of limited means it would not be practical to decide on collecting say trade guns of the North West Fur Trading Company, nor for interest's sake would one want to collect Coey rifles. Presentation Colts are too far up the specialized ladder and a general collector of any and all firearms presents too wide a field. So we buy and trade and sell for a couple of years or so, eliminating this and picking up that until there seems to be some pattern or scheme to the guns we want to keep. We purchase a book or two; we start getting interest in the history behind the guns and the next

thing we know we are being introduced to other collectors as the fellow who likes Civil War Carbines, or Colts, or Winchesters or Smith and Wessons.

When your interest does settle on one line you have reached the stage where your hobby can give you the most satisfaction. You try to eliminate most of the sidetracks and concentrate on turning over those trading pieces on something you really want. When there are long periods between picking up a new item for your collection

continued....

you can help fill this gap with looking for a cartridge or adding to your library.

As mentioned earlier, the Civil War was fought with a greater variety of small arms than any other period of conflict until the Second World War, so to get even one representative arm of both the North and South Armies would be too large a field to cover. Muskets were turned out by the hundreds of thousands, converted Flintlocks, contract arms made in America, foreign arms imported by both sides - these would involve almost hundreds of different types.

Sidearms would be a very interesting endeavor but, unfortunately, excepting a few of the more popular revolvers these were issued in limited numbers and their rate of survival over a hundred years has made many scarce items and at a very high price.

Because of the importance the Cavalry played from the beginning of the conflict the need for a suitable arm produced a flood of inventors, all trying for the acceptance of a Government contract on their patented carbines. Cavalry had always used a shorter arm than the Infantry soldier to facilitate the muzzle loading operation while on horseback, but as the time honored tradition of charge and counter-charge tactics was changing so was the need for a breech loading carbine to meet the requirements of the mounted soldiers. Some muzzle loading percussion carbines were beginning to be replaced by breech loading percussion pieces even before the opening of the War. Many arms patented in the late '50's had been virtually untried in the field and as the need for arms turned to a rush to supply the thousands of men being put into uniform, the scramble of inventors to avoid patent infringement produced a wonderful array of breech loading devices. Some of these were the essence of simplicity; others much too intricate for the hurriedly trained Cavalrymen to assimilate for useful service.

During the four years of conflict there appeared somewhere between 40 to 50 different types of arms for the Cavalry. This would not include the various model changes of each arm, nor the arms secured in small quantities, say to a Southern Company or a Northern reserve unit outfitted at private expense. The carbines issued in large numbers have a better survival percentage and, therefore, better price range. For a collector so far from the source of supply this becomes important. A serious collector, living close to the location of many veterans' families, second hand stores, other collectors and dealers, and starting his hobby many years ago when the supply was almost unlimited, could accumulate 150 to 200 variations. This certainly gives a wide enough scope in an almost specialized field of military arms. A collector of Civil War period arms can go for the works, North and South, longarms and sidearms and even field pieces, or, he can limit his collecting to any part of this wide variety.

The gun developed by Christopher Miner Spencer proved to be the most popular, by numbers used, during the conflict. He made a pretty good rifle, built a highly profitable business, was a leading man in the machine tool industry, was a friend of

Abraham Lincoln, and in a sense made the rifle that ended the Civil War - all this for a young man of 27 years! This dreaded "Horizontal Shot Tower" was first patented on March 6, 1860, and became the first martially successful repeating cartridge arm, in the history of firearms. Ordinance Department records from January 1, 1861, to June 30 1866, indicate that a total of 12,471 Spencer rifles and 94,196 carbines were procured. This does not include some 700 rifles purchased by the Navy at the beginning of the War and probably many more by private purchase.

Three general classes of arms exist that were made under Spencer's direction. Earliest were sporting rifles and semi-military, small calibre carbines made in Hartford, Connecticut. The main factory was later in Boston and it was the Boston marked Spencer that was used during the War. At the close of the War the Burnside Rifle Company of Providence, Rhode Island, built and remodelled Spencer arms and it was the Burnside marked rifles and carbines that saw service in the Indian wars in the West. Certainly, by the end of 1859 Spencer had built his first model, using the small .44 calibre rimfires that were just developed. Another patent in July 29, 1862, perfected the Boston Spencer and later the 1865 Burnside Model.

Except for the early models that used .36 and .44 calibre cartridges, all models were made to take a .56 calibre cartridge at the rim and there were four different bore calibres. Cartridges were identified as 56-56 a straight cased shell used mainly during the War; a slightly tapered 56-54; a popular 56-52 and a more uncommon necked down 56-46.

There were two basic Spencer arms used during the War. In the rifle there were two variations. The Navy model had a lug under the barrel for a sword bayonet, the Army pattern took the regular socket bayonet with triangular blade. The rifle had a 30 inch barrel with long forestock held by band springs and three iron bands. The other basic arm was the carbine. It varied somewhat in barrel length and in calibre though but both the carbine and rifle had identical actions behind the barrel.

The action of the Spencer consisted of a rolling breech block moved by an under lever to eject the empty shell and charge the chamber from the seven shot magazine that went through the butt and was loaded at the butt plate end. All had side back action locks and side hammers that were manually cocked for each shot, a simple, sturdy action with a minimum of moving parts that had increased a soldier's firepower 7 times over, one with a single shot muzzleloader. Later on during the War, with the introduction of Mr. Blakeslee's patented cartridge box, the rate of firepower was increased 10 times more. The box was simply a pouch for carrying 10 tubes of seven cartridges each. These could be inserted into the magazine in the butt of the carbine and now a total of 70 shots could be fired with scarcely a moment's hesitation to re-charge the magazine. This was a far greater firepower than ever the fabled Henry rifle, with its 16 shots in the magazine, but still manually reloaded each time. The Henry rifle's magazine was an exterior arrangement and subject to

stoppages from dust accumulation or dents in the tube, likely to occur in the heat of battle.

A feature of the 1865 Burnside model was the addition of the Stabler cut-off device, a button under the breech mechanism that would not allow the breech to be fully dropped, allowing the chamber to be loaded one at a time by hand and keeping the magazine in reserve for an emergency.

With the inevitable tie-up of Government contracts, procuring sufficient supplies for manufacturing the other delays, the first reported shots fired in anger from the Spencer was in a skirmish at Cumberland, Maryland, on October 16, 1862. Spencer had some luck with individual Commanders and with men who were willing to buy rifles out of their own pocket, not because they were repeaters but because he was willing and ready to deliver. By the Spring and Summer of 1863 Spencers had seen action on many fronts and then the reports began to come in. The man who did most to spread the fame was Colonel John Wilder of the celebrated Lightning Brigade. His request for Henry rifles had been turned down by the manufacturer but his order for 2000 Spencer rifles was quickly filled and in one of his letters he stated that since the Spencers arrived his Brigade had not been driven a single rod by any force or number of the enemy. In other letters it was said "no line of men who come within fifty yards of another force, armed with the Spencer repeaters, can either get away alive or reach them with a charge. My men feel that it is impossible to be whipped".

During the great battle of Gettysburg in July 1863, Spencers were in the hands of the 5th and 7th Michigan Cavalry and the hands of Colonel George Custer. Custer favored the repeater but years later, at Little Big Horn, was armed only with the single shot Springfield carbine because the Army thought a soldier wasted too much lead with a repeating carbine.

Many more stories of Spencer's effectiveness are recorded. The rebel prisoners thought Union soldiers unfair to employ such a weapon. A Union General said he almost pitied the enemy when he saw how they could be literally mowed down under such firepower. The souther Armies did not have an equal to the Spencer and even though some were captured they were useless when the ammunition supply ran out because the South had no similar cartridge nor the facilities to manufacture a duplicate.

The Spence became known as Abe Lincoln's favorite weapon, but did not play a direct part in the assassination of the President. Two Spencer carbines were owned by the assassin, John Wilkes Booth one was carried by Booth when he was shot at Garrett's barn and the other was located at a Tavern where Booth had hidden it.

It had been stated by some military authorities that a repeating gun should not be issued to troops on the grounds; that too many shots were wasted and the individual did not properly aim his weapon. This may have been true at that period of time. Earlier the British system of firing a volley, or a wall of lead, was not aimed at individuals and later in the times of machine guns and other automatic weapons the fire was not aimed. It was partly due to the Spencer that the tactics of was changed - no longer

could men charge in a line, or fire an unaimed volley. The change was to undercover warfare, snipers and trenches, and wars would no longer be fought as they had been in Military Academy textbooks.

A staggering number of Spencer cartridges were used, over 58 million rounds, some of this number in other arms designed to take the standard 56-56, but the repeating Spencer had played a very important part in victory for the Union, shortening the War and probably in the longrun saving many lives.

After his tremendous wartime success, producing 10 times the number of arms Henry's turned out, Spencer had literally produced himself out of the market. This was too large a bore for a sporting arm; it could not be readily adapted by bottlenecking to a smaller calibre. The Henry on the other hand could not handle the large half inch bullet but was a dandy saddle rifle in a straight .44 case. So the Henry prospered in sporting rifle sales and in 1869 the Spencer firm was sold to Oliver Winchester - the short but brilliant career of the death-dealing horizontal shot tower had ended.

THE SECRETARY'S DESK

This issue of the Secretary's Desk falls just after a memorable evening spent at the home of Les Smith in Saskatoon. Just under 20 gun collectors braved blizzard conditions to have one of the popular "stag" meetings in the basement gun room of Les Smith's home. All in all a fine evening and one that saw much business conducted.

Motions were filling the room and seconders jumping to their feet. During the evening I managed to remember that my pen was not edible and even wrote the whole thing down in a fairly ledgible hand.

It seems that the S.G.C.A. is on the way again. Amongst other things we will again produce the popular members stationery for sale. The matter of area directors was left in the capable hands of Bob Henderson, our new and very capable editor.

We also talked of getting a date badge to go on the bottom of our S.G.C.A. crests and distribute them free to members. A committee was set up and they will report to the executive.

A motion was passed that prices on articles for sale be removed at gun shows when the public is in attendance. This was passed by a slim vote.

Ernie Love reported that large scale plans are on the way for the Saskatoon Gun Show and it would be a really big one. He mentioned a two-day affair and lots of activity. This will also be a centennial project.

Business progressed at a rapid rate and the meeting was soon adjourned and the stampede for food and refreshments was under way.

MAGNUM FANS TAKE NOTE

There are many today who think the 220 Swift reaches close to the ultimate velocity obtainable. True, it burns out barrel throats at a rate that would seem to verify this. However, the Swift doesn't hold a candle to the Halger Ultra Cartridge that was loaded over 30 years ago, before modern high velocity powders were available.

Developed by Mr. Gerlic, who apprenticed with Vickers Sons and Maxim in England. The Halger Ultra received much attention when demonstrated at the Aberdeen proving rounds in the United States during the early thirties.

Built on a standard military mauser action, this 7 mm cartridge was tested side by side with the standard 7.9 mm service cartridge. Both rifles sighted at the same target 1100 yards distance. Upon reaching 110 yards the remaining velocity of the Halger Ultra was the same as the muzzle velocity of the 7.9.

The midrange trajectories were just as impressive four feet for the Halger Ultra and sixteen feet for the standard 7.9 Mauser.

The Halger Ultra bullet used in the test wasn't of the armour piercing type, rather a soft lead antimony core enclosed in a thin jacket - never the less, this bullet penetrated $\frac{1}{2}$ inch homogenous armour plate at ranges of several hundred yards, and $\frac{7}{8}$ inch armour plate at a hundred yards. This soft bullet was punching round plugs out of plate that was barely pierced by hard armour piercing 50 calibre machine gun bullets.

Careful test showed velocity of the 7.9 mk military cartridge used was 2560 feet per second with a 197 grain bullet.

The Halger Ultra was kicking out a 193 grain pill at 4445 feet per second standard load and 5800 feet per second with a near maximum load. With improved powders near 7000 feet per second could be achieved, all with standard capacity cartridge cases.

When inspecting the Halger Ultra barrel out metals expert would ver likely overlook the secret of Mr. Gerlic's success and exclaim "This was the kind of barrel erosion to be expected from these impractical velocities."

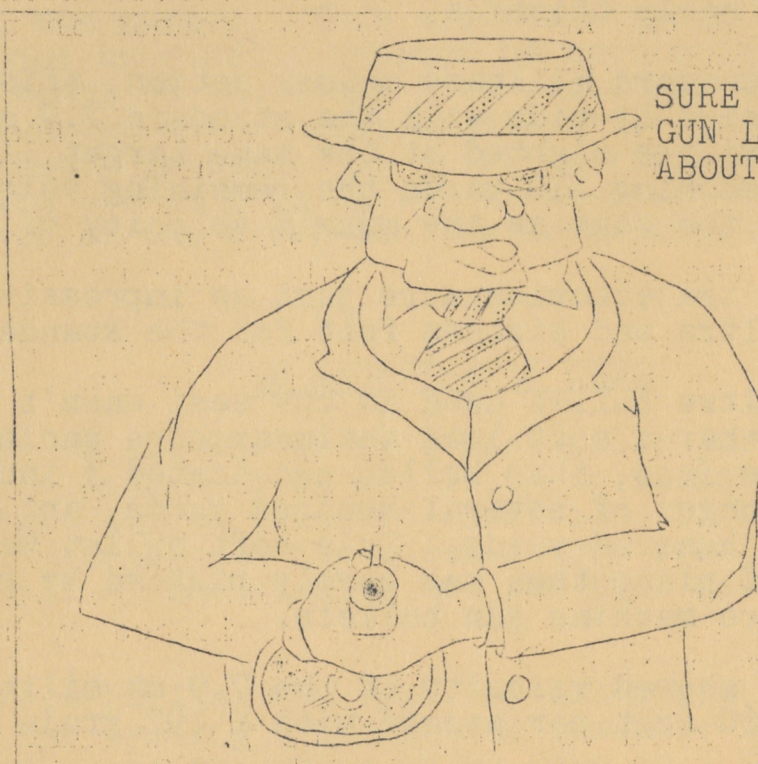
About this time Mr. Gerlic would produce a 35 calibre projectile that was designed to be driven through this tapered bore and reduced to nearly 25 calibre. The secret of course was the tapered bore and the special banded projectile that could utilize the energy of the gasses applied to the 35 calibre bullet and after exit maintain its velocity since the wind resistance was reduced.

Mr. Gerlic first used expensive rifled barrels, but later the calibre was increased to where it was practical to use a solid steel body with dart like steel fins.

These fins maintained accuracy when fired from a smooth, tapered bore 28 mm at the throat and 20 mm at the muzzle.

This cartridge received limited but effective use by the German army in Africa.

Though this principle was never used in allied weapons, the possibilities unlimited with the availability of modern super smooth chromed bores, steel cartridge cases and much improved powders.



SURE SENATOR, I FAVOUR
GUN LEGISLATION. WHAT
ABOUT IT?

ARTICLES AND WANTS

FOR THE JUNE ISSUE DUE

MAY 31st, 1965

ANOTHER FAMOUS CANADIAN

by Ron Halabura

It would seem that today's storytellers are over-exaggerating the potentials of such famous marksmen as Crockett, Boone, Oakley, etc. Many of these legends are read with a grain of salt, so to say, because of some writer's fabulous imagination and his awareness of man's idolatry. Truly, these people possessed an unusual prowess and shooting skill but why is it that history always neglects Canadian heroes? Well I think it's high time someone buckled down and threw in a plug for one of our unsung heroes.

My grandfather was one of those unfortunates whose fame passed on with him, may his soul rest in peace. If Crockett or Oakley could skin a fly at a thousand yards without drawing blood I wouldn't even bother writing this piece. To be more specific he pulled off that stunt standing on his head with his hands behind his back and firing his flintlock with his big toe.

I don't even remember him telling how he learned to shoot like that but I guess that was due to his modesty. "T'weren't nothin'" he'd blushingly stammer as onlookers would pump his hand and slap his back after one of his exhibitions, "Why I could do that with my eyes closed and my powder wet!"

Grandpa's day would start about 4:00 A.M. just when the geese would fly to the river for their daily toiletries. The river was a mere mile and a half from his house so Grandpa would simply point his charcoal burner out the window and pick off a dozen of the choicest honkers (he had good eyes). After breakfast he'd warm up his gun shooting dewdrops off a Saskatoon berry. After that he'd go in for some fancy shooting. In those woolly days Indians were pretty well civilized so Gramps tried his damndest to rile them and have some fun. He was the fastest thing on two feet so he'd sneak up to some Indian village and fire off a half dozen shots from as many positions at least a hundred feet apart. Then he'd calmly settle back and pick off their loinclothes as the crazed Aragoochs came screaming at him.

Gramps always had himself quite a ball at the local turkey shoots. No sooner would the official yell "FIRE" there would be a bullet hole in every target and guess who was the only smoking barrel.

Whenever he settled down to really serious shooting he always took his hammer and anvil with him. You see he'd shoot his gun until the barrel melted clean off, so before the blob of molten steel cooled off he had forged a new barrel out of it (he had some Scotch blood in him I think).

I think I'd best shut her down because some of Grandpa's other endeavours were so far-fetched you might not believe them.

GUN COLLECTING BUG - by Bob Henderson

It seems all gun collectors at one time or another face the same problems of expenses, availability, space to display and regulations governing the items, for example, pistols.

Most collectors of firearms were either given their first gun as a present, or managed to scrounge enough money to buy a piece that appealed to them.

This item probably required a considerable amount of cleaning inside and out, and while the time started to glow under the elbow grease, the "gun bug" chomped onto the hide of the innocent chap labouring over his first prize.

This bug may lay dormant in the fellow for any length of time. But sooner or later, the chance comes for the person involved to obtain one or more guns. These are duly added to the original firearm that stands in a closet or laying in the trunk of a car.

Then some complete stranger comes dragging in, asking to see your gun collection. Hesitating to allow him into the house because of his bloodshot eyes, wild hair and the haggard look, you state that all you have is about 3 old guns in the cellar that prop open the door until hunting season rolls around.

After considerable pleading you finally succumb and allow the strange to examine your arsenal.

He grunts as you show him the sharp looking German shotgun that you painted the stock on - with no less than the first grade enamel paint, too.

Rewarded with a chuckle when you show him the second weapon you hesitate to show him the third, which you haven't even gotten around to start cleaning. But, the stranger stands there licking his chops, hands trembling, knees rattling together and carressing the shooting iron like a mistress.

After rattling through a series of new names, dates and other facts, the question arises "How Much?" Heaping refusal to trade on refusal to sell, you dispose of the stranger and charge down to the local library and start checking on gun makers and their wares.

After considerable research into all aspects of the weapon in question, your stomach begins to squish, your hands shake, your heart pounds - why that gun could be worth money! And if it is, why not get some more, and maybe display them.

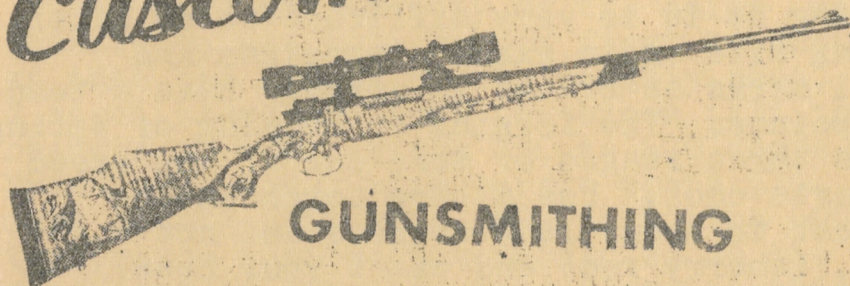
It isn't too long before you can spot a junker or a prize, but you may not realize the difference until you get it home and can really examine it. However, this is all part of the fun.

Wait until you decide where to display the guns, and find you have no room - then comes the heart rending decisions on what to dispose of, which to keep and why.

Then you decide on a special variety to obtain. Laying awake at night pondering what to trade for that hard to obtain model, or is this item worth that much, all result from that first heater picked up not so long ago.

All I can say is welcome to the crowd, fellows. You are not alone and never will be. I don't know of a gun collector yet that really wished he had never started in that field.

Custom



GUNSMITHING

"A Complete Gun Service"

PARK & DEWDNEY
REGINA

PH. 527-8082

VIC ELLIS

NEW AND USED GUNS FOR SALE OR TRADE

It is with some hesitation that I attempt, (at the request of your editor) to write something on the making and tempering of replacement springs for guns.

While I have had moderate success with my own efforts in this field, which has been limited to flat springs as yet, I would not guarantee that anyone reading what is to follow would not find themselves wondering how such haphazard methods could produce satisfactory results. However, I would like to point out that methods I use are the results of having to improvise due to the lack of most of the equipment normally considered essential, such as electric furnaces, pyrometers, thermometers, etc.

In the making of springs it is first necessary to have at hand some good spring stock, preferably in different sizes to keep to a minimum the work of cutting, grinding and filing. There are those who claim to be able to make good springs from scrap material such as old automobile springs but it is more practicle to buy good British or Swedish spring steel. When purchasing spring steel the dealer should be able if you request it, to give the critical temperature and the temperature to which you should draw in tempering, for the particular stock he is supplying you with.

One can use the hacksaw and file mostly to arrive at the approximate dimensions before bending to what ever shape is indicated. If you use a grinder for any part of the shaping be sure not to allow the heat to build up. If possible try and have what will be the inside surface of the spring smooth and polished before bending as it is very difficult to do after it is bent. After shaping file again exact dimensions and polish to remove all tool marks as breaks in springs have a tendency to begin from such points. The forging or shaping of springs usually has to be doen in three stages or more due to the speed with which small metal parts cool. Use a blow torch in the absence of a furnace. Heat to about 1450 degrees and not higher than 1500 degrees, (cherry red) and start your bend. Bend or turn it about half way. Reheat and completely turn the bend to exact degree required allowing about .001 to .002" for normal set when first compressed. Never attempt to bend or shape when color has run below cherry red. If further heating is required to complete curves and line everything up square and parallel be sure to bring to same heat each time. If all the necessary bending is done in three stages or more the molecular structure of the steel will not be so deranged as to cause fractures later. Uneven heating and cold bending appears to be the cause of most defects when forging springs.

Next comes the hardening of the spring. This is accomplished by heating to the critical temperature and quenching in various baths such as lard oil, water, or #10 motor oil at room temperature. The critical temperature of most spring

steels occurs at cherry red heat or slightly higher (observed when metal is shielded from direct light). Heating to the critical temperature can be done by electric furnace checking the temperature with pyrometer or thermometer built into the furnace, or by submerging in a lead bath which is checked for temperature with a high reading thermometer, or as I have done by heating with a common blow torch and a bit of experimenting to decide what I considered to be the proper heat by observation of color (bright cherry red). The arrival of the temperature of steel at what is called the critical temperature can be determined by the use of a magnet. When the critical temperature is reached carbon steel no longer is affected by the magnetic field. If this method is tried be sure that the tongs do not throw you off. I have used a full cherry red heat with a quick quenching in #10 motor oil at room temperature. Be sure there is no appreciable drop in temperature between withdrawal from flame and quenching. Use sufficient oil and motion to be sure of quick and even chilling.

The spring is now hard and the more difficult task of tempering remains to be accomplished. If you have a high reading thermometer use a bath of potassium nitrate (Saltpeter) heated to 700 to 725 degrees farenhite and submerge spring for 10 to 15 minutes keeping the temperature as even as possible and if possible just gradually rising from 700 and then quickly quench in oil as before being sure to cool uniformly by agitation. Springs which are simply dropped in oil sometimes have soft spots due to contact with the bottom and sides of container.

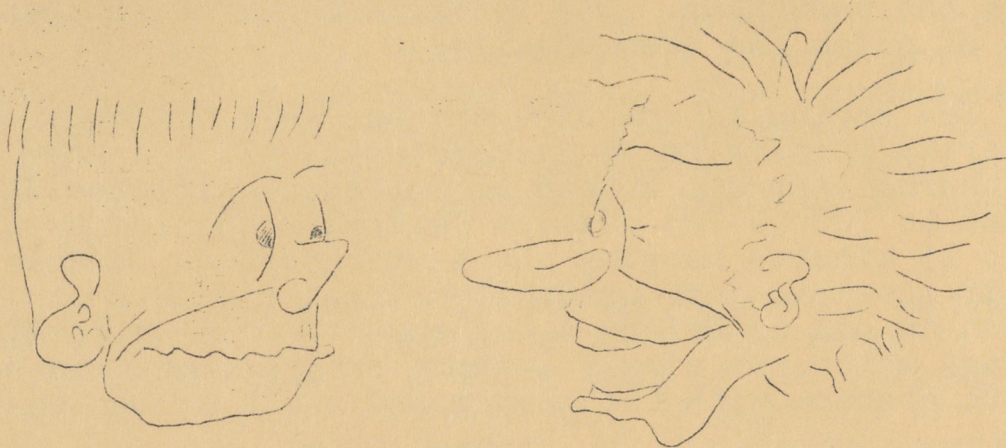
I have had to rely on the color method of determining heats. To use this method first brighten or polish the spring so that the colors can be readily seen. Place the spring on a steel block and heat the block till the color of the spring changes through, straw 450 to 470 degrees farenhite, yellow brown 490, brown with purple spots 510, light purple 530, dark purple 550, blue 560, dark blue 600, and black 700. The proper temperature should be in the 700 to 725 degree range and if possible hold close to this heat for a few minutes. Try not to go as high as black red which is about the next visible change and which is close to 800 degrees F. Immediately upon reaching black, or after a few minutes when you have had a bit of practice quench in oil. Give the spring a final polishing and it is ready to test.

The spring can be tested in clamps or the ordinary bench vise. However, try to position spring in vise so that it can creep or extend as it is compressed. Fully compress spring about ten times and if it does not break or set too much it should last a good long time. If it does set so much as to be useless reheat to cherry red and harden by quenching in oil. Polish and temper again trying a different temperature. Here is where patience and experimenting can give one the know how in spring making. If the spring has been over heated at any stage it will likely be worthless (will probably break

in testing) and one can start over again with a new piece of steel.

In the event that you are not lucky enough to have success at your first attempt do not despair, a bit of experimenting will bring good results. If you have access to a good library any books on Metallurgy or the heat treatment of metals will give one a better understanding of the problems involved and make spring making easier.

GUESS WHO JUST STARTED COLLECTING GUNS



BY THE WAY SANDY, REMEMBER THAT FLINTLOCK I HAD THAT YOU WANTED TO BUY? WELL I GAVE IT AWAY LAST WEEK TO A GUN COLLECTOR.

POINT OF INTEREST:

There are seven different variations of dust covers on the Model 73 Winchesters.

WANTS AND TRADES

One .577 Snyder Mk. 111 rifle with ammo, brass and primers. Condition good, bore excellent. One 9.3 x 57 mm Mannlicher rifle with double set triggers, rib barrel with manufacturer's name and address inlaid in silver. Condition good, bore fair. Accessories include RCBS dies, S.C. mould blocks and sizing chamber, and 30 rounds of ammo. One Lee-Enfield 303 MK 111 in fair condition with 120 rounds soft point, 185 rounds ball and a few black powder loads, large quantity stripper clips.

Trev. RENWICK,
#7 Madrid Apts.,
Regina, Sask.

Flintlock pistol or rifle or double shotgun wanted.

Trev. RENWICK,
#7 Madrid Apts.,
Regina, Sask.

Am now specializing in WINCHESTERS. Please advise what you have for sale or trade.

Ray CANTIN,
737 Argyle St.,
Regina, Sask.

Have ayonets, guns, medals, cap badges. Will buy, trade or sell.

Rene GAUDRY,
4408 -2nd Ave. North,
Regina, Sask.

.38 Smith & Wesson Military Revolver. Holster stock for a Browning Hi-Power pistol. Edison cylinder records. Want 1866 and 1873 and other Winchester rifles.

N. EVANS,
Flaxcombe, Sask.

Model 73 Winchesters for specialized collection wanted.

Ben BRODERICK,
Maple Creek, Sask.

Will buy single items or complete collections of Nazi material.

A. WRIGHT,
Swift Current, Sask.

WANTED

Nazi paratroop dagger - has wooden grips with spike folded along edge. Blade drops from inside handle when release pressed. Must be in clean condition.

Bob HENDERSON,
1400 "B" Grace St.,
Regina, Sask.

"MY FRIEND" Pistol, or any information in this regard.

A.J. DAVIDIUK,
289 Waverly Road,
Toronto 8, Ont.

Information about a single item or your complete collection for publishing in "GUN TALK". Help share the gun and ammo bug with the rest of the boys.

.303 British Charger clips; also information as to where to obtain an exploded drawing of a Hopkins & Allen .38 Safety Police revolver and a .22 Cal. American double action revolver.

R.C. HALABURA,
Laniwci, Sask.

Am interested in old guns and other old items from the pioneer days.

Roy ROGERS,
Box 223,
Nipawin, Sask.

"GUN TALK" magazines prior to JUNE 1963, Vol. 3, #2.

Norm COLLINGWOOD,
4070 West 36th Ave.,
Vancouver, B.C.

Have S.G.C.A. Crests - Will Sell!

R. Hill,
Secretary.

BRITISH MILITARY COLLECTORS

Calibre 303, Number 4 Lee Enfield
SNIPER RIFLES, complete with original
#32 telescopic sights, mounts and fitted
wooden chest. The whole in very good
condition. A limited supply available
from Vancouver stock at 89.50 each

We have them for immediate delivery,
The New Smith & Wesson Military & Police
41 Magnum revolvers, four inch barrel,
fixed quick draw sights. A handfull of
guh at \$110.00

Deluxe Grade 41 Magnum Smith & Wesson
revolvers, 6" barrel, target sights,
target hammer trigger etc. Fitted case
from stock at 190.00

Russian Moisn Negant Bolt action any
rifles, Model 91/30. Covered with grease
but in good sound condition.

SPECIAL AS IS IN DIRTY SHAPE \$8.50
If you want them cleaned up the price
is 12.50.

Russian Free Pistols in 22 calibre.
Martini action, set trigger etc,
glove like grip, complete with fitted
case, tools, spare parts and accessories
Vostok Model TOZ 35 \$270.00
Vostok Model IJ-1 \$270.00

The Russian Baikal 12 gauge over and
under shotgun, two triggers, extractor
grade, a rather heavy gun with a fairly
good finish Priced at 150.00/

Ex British Military cal 455 Smith &
Wesson revolvers, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " barrel. Quite
good condition with lots of finish
and a few small nicks \$35.00

455 Colt New Service Revolvers 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " barrel
good condition with some finish wear 32.50

Ex British Army Smith & Wesson 38 cal.
Military and Police revolvers,
calibre 38 S & W, not special,
4, 5, or 6" barrel, good tight condition
with about 80% original finish 32.50

Three Only, ex service S & W Military
& Police revolvers in original calibre
38 special. 6" barrel only. About
60% blue left, but clean tight condition
Half the price of a new one at 45.00

Colt Police Positive Revolver in 32 calibre,
4" barrel, small frame, in very good condi-
tion with most original finish \$40.00

BRNO Over and under 12 gauge shotguns,
fitted with two triggers, for use as
single selector or double trigger.
A fine weapons for 164.75. Supply limited

Wartime Production German P-38 automatic
pistols, original finish and matching
numbers. Some wear to finish and light
wear to bore. Price 39.50

38 Calibre Smith & Wesson service revolvers
by Webley & Scott, top break Model MarkIV
five inch barrel, good condition 19.50

Similar to the above, but double action
only. Enfield Commando revs. 38 cal 17.50

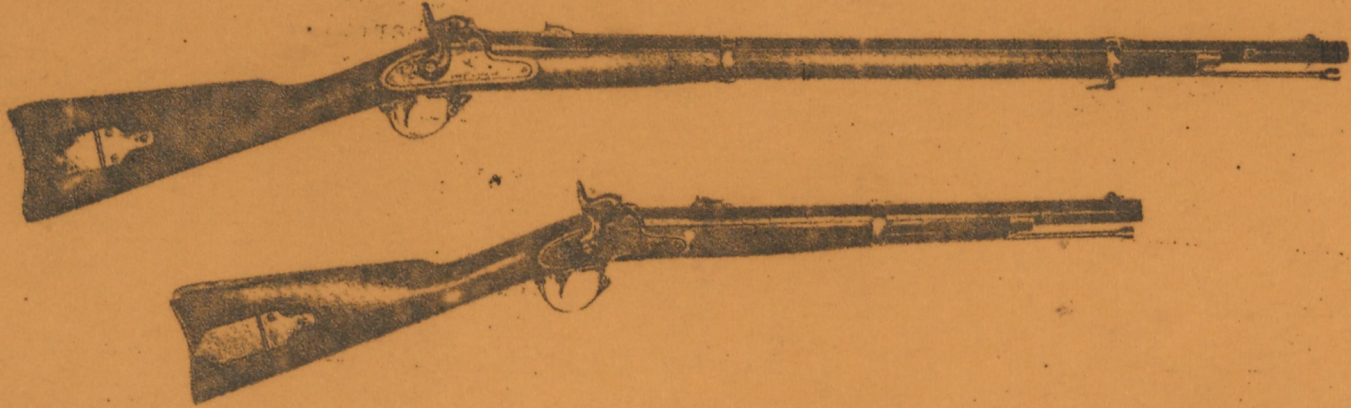
SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER

Astra Cadix revolvers in calibre 38 special
five shots, 2" or 4" or 6" barrel.
Four and six inch models have fitted target
sights. 2" Model, smooth combat sights.
Regular price 49.50, limited quantity
only at 39.50.

The Collecting of Guns, by Jim Serven.
No collectors library is complete without
this fine reference work 24.95

ZOUAVE RIFLE

model
1863



A Quality Replica Modelled After
The 1863 Remington

fine walnut stock
blued steel 58 cal. rifled barrel
case hardened percussion lock + hammer
brass furniture + patch box
supplied with spare nipple
screw worm

58 cal. rifle

89 50

58 cal. carbine, 20" bbl.

89 50

Lever Arms Service

761 DUNSMUIR
VANCOUVER 1, B.C.